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Local, A3

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'This year has been extremely hard'

Holiday food sharing program comes as need is on the rise

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Cars lined up for blocks Wednesday as people in need waited for their turn to receive food for a holiday meal during the fifth annual Holiday Food Sharing Program.

About 500 turkeys and hundreds of food items were distributed to families through the program, which was hosted by the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency.

The agency's executive director, Kim Smith Oldham, said the number of people seeking food assistance has tripled since the COVID-19 pandemic started mid-March.

"This year has been extremely hard," she said. "In the last seven months, we've serviced over 23,000 families."

The food was handed out differently from previous years, when people received food in prepackaged boxes.

But Yvonne Vidt, community services manager with the agency, said that required the volunteers to be in the Benton Harbor warehouse ahead of time.

"This year, they were not allowed in the warehouse because of the virus," she said.

So this year cars drove in a big oval in front of the agency's warehouse while volunteers at stations filled the trunks with the makings of a holiday meal, including dressing, baked goods, vegetables, milk, eggs and fruit.

See **FOOD**, page A6

Louise Wrege / HP staff

Volunteers Marletta Seats of Benton Township, left, and Rosa Skinner of Stevensville prepare to give out orange juice to the next car Wednesday during the fifth annual Holiday Food Sharing Program, hosted by the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency.

A light show that delivers

Photos by Tony Wittkowski / HP staff

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer leads the pack and Santa Claus as one of dozens of lawn decorations at Nicolas Carter's Benton Township property.

Postal worker draws crowds to his property with 25,000 Christmas lights

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Nicolas Carter doesn't mind a larger-than-normal electric bill in December.

So long as he's able to bring joy to the surrounding neighborhoods.

For the past two years, Carter has transformed his property at 980 Roslin Road in Benton Township into a winter wonderland of lights.

Only this year as different. Carter, who works for the U.S. Postal Service, began stringing up Christmas lights and blow-up figures in his front and side yard.

Last year, Carter said he only had half of this year's amount set up throughout his property. This year, at more than 25,000 lights and 62 blow-up figures, Carter is adding to his yard on a daily basis.

"With the pandemic, people don't have much to do, and I just want to put a smile on everyone's face," Carter said.

In addition, every day this Christmas season from 6-8 p.m. he has dressed up as the Grinch. He greets people in the numerous vehicles that either slow down or come to a complete halt in front of his property. He also will take photos with children and hands out candy canes. The lights remain on until 10 p.m., when Carter calls it a night.

The rest of the

See **LIGHTS**, page A6

Nicolas Carter passes out candy canes Monday outside his Benton Township home. Carter began stringing up more than 25,000 Christmas lights on his property in October.

A season of fear, not cheer, as virus changes Christmas

By VANESSA GERA
Associated Press

Montserrat Parello lost her husband eight years ago, and Christmas gatherings with children and grandchildren had helped her deal with her loneliness. But this year, the 83-year-old will be alone for the holiday at her home in Barcelona, due to the risk of infection from the coronavirus.

"In these days of pandemic, I feel loneliness and anger," Parello said, expressing fears that "I will leave this life devoid of affection, of warmth."

All most people wanted for Christmas after this year of pandemic uncertainty and chaos was some cheer and togetherness. Instead many are heading into a season of isolation, grieving lost loved ones, worried about their jobs or confronting the fear of a new potentially more contagious virus variant.

Residents of London and surrounding areas can't see people outside their households. Peruvians won't be allowed to drive their cars over Christmas and New Year to discourage visits even with nearby family and friends. South Africans won't be able to go to the beach on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

The patchwork of restrictions being imposed by local and national governments across the world varies widely – but few holiday seasons will look normal this year.

People the world over are facing wrenching decisions – to see isolated elderly relatives despite the risk or to miss one of the potentially few Christmases left in the hopes of spending the holiday together next year.

There are no nationwide travel restrictions in the United States, but health officials have urged people to stay home and limit gatherings. Some states require travelers to get tested or quarantine.

Michelle Dallaire, 50, an attorney in Idlewild, Mich., said this would be her first Christmas away from her

See **CHRISTMAS**, page A2

'Mom's worth it': U.S. holiday travel surges despite outbreak

By TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Some are elderly and figure they don't have many Christmases left. Others are trying to keep long-distance romance alive. Some just yearn for the human connection that's been absent for the past nine months.

Millions of Americans are traveling ahead of Christmas and New Year's, despite pleas from public health experts that they stay home to avoid fueling the raging coronavirus pandemic that has killed more than 320,000 nationwide.

Many people at airports this week thought long and hard about whether to go somewhere and found a way to rationalize it.

"My mom's worth it. She needs my help," said 34-year-old Jennifer Brownlee, a fisherman from Bayou La Batre, Alabama, who was waiting at the Tampa airport to fly to Oregon to see her mother, who just lost a leg. "I know that God's got me. He's not going to let me get sick."

Brownlee said that she would wear a mask on the plane "out of respect" for other passengers but that her immune system and Jesus Christ would protect her.

More than 5 million people passed through the nation's airport security checkpoints between Friday and Tuesday, according to the Transportation Security Administration.

That is down around 60 percent from the same time last year. But it amounts to around a million passengers per day, or about what the U.S. saw in the days leading up to Thanksgiving, when some Americans likewise disregarded warnings and ended up contributing to the nationwide surge.

Michelle Lopez wondered if she made the right

See **TRAVEL**, page A2

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Tomorrow's Weather

High 27 Low 21

6 50645 49085 0

Trump gives Congress chaos for Christmas

Aid to millions up in the air

By DAVID LAUTER and CHRIS MEGERIAN
Los Angeles Times (TNS)

WASHINGTON — What may well be the final two legislative battles of the Trump presidency unspooled in typically chaotic fashion Wednesday as the president departed Washington for his Mar-a-Lago resort, leaving behind a vetoed defense bill, continued uncertainty over the fate of some $900 billion in COVID-19 relief, and some very dismayed Republican leaders.

In a taped message Tuesday night, Trump denounced as a "disgrace" a $2.3 trillion year-end spending bill that congressional leaders of both parties had negotiated with his treasury secretary. He demanded Congress approve $2,000-per-person relief checks, rather than the $600 checks the bill includes.

On Wednesday, he followed through on threats to veto the $741 billion defense bill, which authorizes a vast array of military programs and includes a 3 percent pay increase for service members. Trump said he vetoed the bill because Congress had not included an extraneous measure he backs that targets social media companies. He also said he opposed a provision to rename military bases that were named after Confederate generals.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., called Trump's veto of the defense bill "an act of staggering recklessness" and said the House would vote Monday on overriding the veto. The chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. James M. Inhofe, R-Okla., also called for an override.

The bill passed both the House and Senate with more than the two-thirds necessary to override a veto, but some Republicans who voted for it have said they won't join that effort. If the override passes in the House, the Senate will take it up later in the week.

Trump continued to keep both sides guessing whether he would veto the spending bill containing the coronavirus relief package or just complain about it, perhaps as a way of punishing Republican Senate leaders who have not backed his latest efforts to subvert November's presidential election, which he lost to Democrat Joe Biden. White House officials, many of whom had been caught off guard by Trump's message Tuesday, could offer no clarity.

Patrick Semansky / AP

President Donald Trump waves Wednesday as he boards Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., to travel to Mar-a-Lago.

Either way, Trump's move created huge problems for Republicans, pitting their fear of getting crosswise with a mercurial president against their distaste for further large helpings of government spending. They'll face their first test on Thursday, when Pelosi plans to bring a measure to the House floor that would provide the $2,000 checks demanded by Trump.

The measure will come up under rules that require unanimous approval, and there's a strong likelihood that at least one Republican will object and block the effort for now.

Some Republicans have backed direct checks to individuals as part of the COVID-19 relief package. Earlier this month, GOP Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri joined independent Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont in demanding that any COVID-19 bill include checks.

Others, however, oppose any direct payments, saying much of the money would go to people who don't need it.

"Most working Americans don't need a check right now. It's a really foolish, empty-headed, left-wing, socialist idea to pass out free money to people," Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said in an interview Wednesday on Fox News.

Other Republicans don't object to checks in principle, but balk at the extra spending. Direct checks account for about $200 billion of the roughly $900 billion of COVID relief in the current bill. Increasing the checks to $2,000 for adults would add about $370 billion to the cost, according to an estimate by Ernie Tedeschi, an economist who was a senior Treasury Department official in the Obama administration. In negotiations over the last few weeks, Republicans insisted on keeping the total cost of COVID-19 relief below $1 trillion.

A veto of the bill would come with enormous consequences. The overall bill to which the COVID-19 relief is attached funds government agencies though September. Current funding expires at midnight Eastern time Monday, so a veto would probably cause government agencies to close.

If a shutdown happens, it could last until after Biden is sworn in as president on Jan. 20, since the current Congress goes out of business on Jan. 3 – leaving little time to work out a compromise – and the new Congress is not scheduled to conduct legislative business until after the inauguration.

The imminent end of the current Congress could also allow Trump to exercise a so-called pocket veto – a relatively rare measure in which a president blocks a law passed at the end of a legislative session by declining to act on it before Congress adjourns. Because of the bill's massive size, it won't be formally printed and sent to the White House until later this week, congressional officials said. Once the White House receives it, Trump has 10 days, excluding Sundays, to act.

Further increasing the risks, unemployment benefits for millions of Americans will expire Friday, deepening families' financial distress and potentially weakening the economy. The measure that passed Congress would extend benefits into March.

CHRISTMAS

From page A1

father, who lives in northern Virginia. They decided it wasn't worth the risk this year.

"It's sad, but better than never seeing him again," said Dallaire, who has health issues that also make her particularly vulnerable to the virus.

The virus has been blamed for more than 1.7 million deaths worldwide, and many are still grieving – or worried about loved ones in hospitals or nursing homes as the virus surges anew. But some who have survived sickness – and everything else that 2020 has thrown at them – are looking to rejoice.

Dr. Elisaveta Tomova, an anesthesiologist in North Macedonia, is exhausted after months of helping women with the virus give birth and caring for her 26-year-old son, who became infected himself.

"I have faced a nine-headed monster, and my son and I have beat it," the 54-year-old said. "All I need now is my family to be around me, to celebrate in silence and to fill my heart with joy."

Many people head into the holidays facing financial uncertainty after lockdowns to slow the spread of the virus have decimated economies.

Matteo Zega, a 25-year-old Italian chef who has worked in Michelin-starred restaurants, lost a job offer in France when bars and restaurants there were ordered to remain closed until mid-January. He's hoping to start an internship in Copenhagen – as long as restrictions don't scupper that plan, too.

"It makes me stressed," Zega said. "But at the end of the day, I wouldn't complain when there are so many people suffering or dying. You can lose many things: jobs, money. But I'm here, I'm healthy."

In recent weeks, many countries tightened restrictions in the hopes of bringing the spread of the virus under control so that the rules could be relaxed for Christmas. But that has not worked in many places.

TRAVEL

From page A1

decision after flying from Houston to Norfolk, Virginia, where her boyfriend serves in the Navy.

"I didn't want to go, but I haven't seen him in so long," said the 24-year-old, who last saw her boyfriend about five months ago and was trying to maintain their relationship.

Before flying, Lopez took a COVID-19 test that came back negative. But the two planes she took offered little room for social distancing. Some passengers removed their masks to eat or drink. And not everyone used wipes that airlines offer to sanitize armrests and trays.

Her layover at Chicago's O'Hare Airport was equally unsettling, she said. It was packed with people and felt hot from too many bodies. Some people wore their masks below their noses. In the bathrooms, not everyone washed their hands for at least 20 seconds, Lopez said.

She works as a medical assistant in a doctor's office. She will have to quarantine for 10 days at home and get tested again before heading back to work.

Joan Crunk, 75, and her husband, Jim, 80, of Grandview, Missouri, were at the Kansas City airport Tuesday, waiting to pick up their daughter and son-in-law, who were flying in from Savannah, Georgia, and planned to stay with them until Jan. 2. It had been a year since they had seen each other.

Joan Crunk said they talked a lot about whether to gather.

"It is very hard, and we are older. My husband is 80. There is no guarantee from one year to the next," she said as "Silver Bells" played over the airport speakers.

U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams encouraged people to celebrate only with people in their households, but added that if they can't follow the guidance, they should take precautions, such as ensuring good home ventilation.

"We can't let fatigue cause us to make poor decisions this holiday season that end up making us backtrack, especially when we are so incredibly close to getting ourselves and everyone else across the finish line," he said, referring to the start of COVID-19 vaccinations.

Overall, the AAA projected that about 85 million people will travel between Wednesday and Jan. 3, most of them by car. That would be a drop of nearly a one-third from a year ago but still a big number in the middle of a pandemic.

Janeen Pierre was juggling a pile of luggage Tuesday and getting her two little girls to the bathroom at the Charlotte, North Carolina, airport before they boarded their flight to Orlando, Florida.

Pierre and her husband had planned to spend Christmas on a Disney cruise, but the pandemic changed their itinerary to ringing in the holidays at Disney's theme parks instead.

"Disney refunded all of our money, but American Airlines did not. So we're going to have a very Disney Christmas," she said, adding that her girls could barely contain their excitement about visiting Cinderella's Castle.

Still, she said, "With the new strains coming out, I don't know if this is the smartest idea."

Trump pardons former campaign chairman Manafort

By ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Wednesday pardoned former campaign chairman Paul Manafort and Charles Kushner, the father of his son-in-law, in the latest wave of clemency to benefit longtime associates and supporters.

The actions, in Trump's final weeks at the White House, bring to nearly 50 the number of people whom the president in the last two days has granted clemency. Pardons are common in the final stretch of a president's tenure, but Trump has proven himself determined to use his clemency power not only to reward his allies but to support the causes of convicts championed by his friends.

The pardons of Manafort and Roger Stone, who months earlier had his sentence commuted by Trump, underscore the president's desire to chip away at the results of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation and to come to the aid of associates he feels were wrongly pursued. He has now pardoned four people convicted in that investigation, including former national security adviser Michael Flynn and campaign adviser George Papadopoulos, who pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI.

Manafort, who led Trump's campaign during a pivotal 2016 period before being ousted over his ties to Ukraine, had been sentenced to more than seven years in prison for financial crimes related to his work in Ukraine. He was among the first people charged as part of Mueller's investigation into ties between the Trump campaign and Russia. He was released to home confinement last May because of coronavirus concerns in the federal prison system.

Though the charges against Manafort did not concern the central thrust of Mueller's mandate – whether the Trump campaign and Russia colluded to tip the election – he was nonetheless a pivotal figure in the investigation. His close relationship to a man U.S. officials have linked to Russian intelligence, and with whom he shared internal campaign polling data, attracted particular scrutiny during the investigation, though Mueller never charged any Trump associate with conspiring with Russia.

Manafort, in a tweet, thanked Trump and lavished praise on the outgoing president, declaring that history would show he had accomplished more than any of his predecessors.

LOTTERIES

Wednesday drawings

Michigan
Classic Lotto 47
02-03-08-10-14-21
Midday Daily 3
4-4-4
Midday Daily 4
1-7-2-1
Daily 3
6-8-3
Daily 4
8-9-8-7
Fantasy 5
12-16-32-38-39
Estimated jackpot
$118,000
Keno
05-09-10-15-17-28-30-31-47-49-51-54-55-56-59-63-70-72-73-75-76-79

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Mega Millions
29-53-56-59-67, Mega Ball: 21, Megaplier: 2
Indiana
Cash 5
05-31-36-41-42
Cash4Life
01-05-15-27-46, Cash Ball: 2
Quick Draw Midday
03-05-09-18-21-22-26-27-28-29-34-38-40-43-45-46-56-58-61-75, BE: 27
Daily Three-Midday
3-3-4, SB: 3
Daily Three-Evening
5-9-9, SB: 1
Daily Four-Midday
0-8-3-7, SB: 3
Daily Four-Evening
5-1-2-7, SB: 1
Quick Draw Evening
04-10-12-16-19-25-27-33-34-35-39-40-46-47-49-54-59-61-62-75, BE: 33
Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
18-27-29-38-45
Pick Three-Midday
2-2-8, Fireball: 3
Pick Three-Evening
8-4-4, Fireball: 2
Pick Four-Midday
8-5-9-8, Fireball: 3
Pick Four-Evening
9-0-5-5, Fireball: 8
Lucky Day Lotto
07-14-16-21-29

– The Associated Press

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hp LOCAL & STATE

Bringing the 'Prancer village' back to life

Library displays restored model that was used in film

By DAVID JOHNSON
For The Herald-Palladium

THREE OAKS — The final scene of "Prancer" shows the magical reindeer joining the team pulling Santa's sleigh through the sky, followed by an aerial view of a village that looks a lot like Three Oaks.

Much of John Hancock's 1989 Christmas tale (starring Sam Elliott, Chloris Leachman, Abe Vigoda and Rebecca Harrell) was filmed in Three Oaks and the nearby New Carlisle area.

But the community that Prancer and all of the other reindeer fly over before the end credits begin to roll was a model that still exists – in Three Oaks.

Region Of Three Oaks Museum Board members Nick Bogert and Randy Miller have been restoring the main three sections of the Prancer scale-model version of Three Oaks on the third floor of the Three Oaks Township Library building, where it has been in storage for quite a few years. It depicts the main drag of the village basically as it was in the 1980s, with plenty of retro touches like older cars and a Christmas tree lot, as seen in the movie.

"That's where Prancer was chained up," Miller noted.

He said the model was in pretty good shape, but lights had to be replaced.

"We put new lamp posts on and I ran some black threads to simulate wires," Miller said.

Library Director Cheryl Kersey said the model village was featured in the Christmas window display at the Three Oaks drug store when it was open.

"It's been upstairs since the pharmacy closed," she said. "When Froehlich's bought it and they started working, it came over here. And it's been sitting up on our third floor waiting for someone to restore it."

That downtown Three Oaks tradition has been renewed for 2020, as the North Elm Street portion of the model is on display in the library's front window for the holidays.

The small middle section of the model, composed mainly of the train tracks that run through the center of the village, and the South Elm Street portion, were originally slated to be displayed with the northern portion in Heritage Hall (the historic former Three Oaks Township Hall) during a Dec. 12 open house that was canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

ABOVE: Nick Bogert, left, and Randy Miller carry part of the "Prancer" model of Three Oaks as they transport it to the library for display. TOP RIGHT: The "Prancer" model of Three Oaks is shown through the window of the library. BOTTOM RIGHT: This is the Christmas tree lot in the South Elm Street portion of the "Prancer" model of Three Oaks.

Photos by David Johnson / For The Herald-Palladium

They ended up being taken back to the third floor of the library.

Once the main section (including the Warren Featherbone building that now houses the Three Oaks Township Library) was in place in the library window on Dec. 10, Miller and Bogert sprinkled flour on it to simulate snow.

Bogert said the model was constructed by a man named Don Bowman.

"It was built by a guy who'd worked for the FAA creating miniatures of airports around the country, and he'd retired to La Porte," he said, adding that Bowman worked on it at his house for several months before it was used during filming.

Miller said an aerial shot of the model was shown at the end of the film. The scene also included views of the surrounding countryside (some of it modeled after Starved Rock State Park in Utica, Ill.) and depicts Prancer taking flight from "Antler Ridge."

The Antler Ridge portion of the model is in two pieces upstairs at the library awaiting restoration. The other sections of Elm Street are currently keeping it company – for now.

"We're kicking around some ideas of maybe doing something in the summertime with it. I think we need to re-introduce it," Miller said.

Copies of "Lights! Camera! Three Oaks! The Making of Prancer," a 13-minute documentary produced by Bogert, are available by contacting the Region of Three Oaks Museum; email is: trotommuseum@gmail.com, or street address is: P.O. Box 121, Three Oaks, MI 49128.

South Bend airport delivers teddy bears to Lakeland

By HP STAFF

ST. JOSEPH — As part of the annual Bears in the Air program, South Bend International Airport has delivered nearly 300 teddy bears for patients at Spectrum Health Lakeland hospitals.

This year, due to COVID-19, funds were collected by the Michiana community to purchase 1,400 new bears. These were delivered to five area hospitals this week, including Lakeland. Bears are given to patients in the emergency department, pediatric units, and new babies born at the BirthPlace.

"The bears offer a form of companionship for children during their time in the hospital as well as a special gift for parents who are welcoming a new addition to their family," said Tammy Jerz, manager of patient care services obstetrics at Spectrum Health Lakeland. "We are extremely grateful for our continued partnership with the South Bend International Airport and know these bears will put smiles on many faces."

"It was as crucial as ever for the Bears in the Air program to continue despite the challenges of 2020," said airport CEO and Executive Director Mike Daigle. "We are touched and grateful for the generous support our community has continued to lend to this important program. These bears bring big smiles and a sense of comfort to children during a scary time."

The Bears in the Air program has provided more than 12,500 bears to children in area hospitals over the last nine years. Additionally, a cash donation to the Robert L. Miller Sr. Veteran's Center will take place in January.

IN BRIEF

COVID hospitalizations rise slightly Wednesday

COVID hospitalizations at Spectrum Health Lakeland rose again on Wednesday, to 51. That's up from 36 on Tuesday, but still down from 65 last Wednesday.

Berrien County recorded another COVID-19 death on Wednesday, bringing the county's death toll to 158.

The county also recorded 42 new COVID cases and 69 recoveries on Wednesday. This brought the number of active cases in the county down to about 2,779. That's down from 3,547 last Wednesday.

COVID-19 tallies may not be updated over the holiday weekend. To check the latest figures, visit www.bchdmi.org, https://vbcassdhd.org/covid-19, or www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Woman wounded in South Haven shooting incident

SOUTH HAVEN — South Haven Police are investigating a shooting that occurred Tuesday in South Haven Township.

Police say they were called to Bronson South Haven Hospital in response to a report of a 26-year-old woman being treated for a gunshot wound.

The shooting occurred in the 21000 block of M-140 Highway, according to a news release issued by police.

The victim and a witness, however, provided differing statements about the circumstances surrounding the incident.

The victim was treated at Bronson South Haven before being transported to Bronson Hospital in Kalamazoo, where she is expected to recover, according to the release.

Police are continuing to investigate.

Police investigate Lawrence Dollar General break-in

LAWRENCE — Van Buren County Sheriff's deputies are investigating a break-in at the Lawrence Dollar General late Monday night, into early Tuesday morning.

An initial investigation found that the suspect or suspects climbed an exterior wall of the building, along South Paw Paw Street, and used tools to gain entry into the store through the roof, the sheriff's office reported in a news release.

The suspects allegedly stole several thousand dollars in cash, along with hundreds of dollars worth of merchandise, according to the release. The investigation is ongoing.

Donations to allow for drone purchase

ST. JOSEPH — The Berrien County Sheriff's Office has received donations from Honor Credit Union and Starks Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services for the purchase of a new drone with thermal resolution.

The EVO II Dual drone is valued at over $11,000 and transmits crucial information back to the pilot, allowing police to make informed decisions during some of the most stressful circumstances, according to Berrien County Sheriff Paul Bailey.

He said that with the thermal recording, the drone captures a 360-degree view of a scene, providing the ability of officers to find a suspect or missing person in low-light situations.

"We are very grateful for the support of Honor Credit Union and Starks Family Funeral Homes for helping us acquire this extremely useful tool," Bailey said. "Drones provide a valuable resource for law enforcement and provide a great tool for us to continue to serve and protect our communities."

Woman charged in threats against election official

By ED WHITE
Associated Press

DETROIT — A woman angry with a Detroit-area election official sent photos of a dead body and threatened her family, a day after a clamorous meeting at which Republican board members initially refused to certify local results in favor of Joe Biden, authorities said Wednesday.

Katelyn Jones, 23, was charged with making a threat of violence. She sent a series of disturbing messages by phone and on social media that referred to Monica Palmer of the Wayne County Board of Canvassers as a terrorist and racist, the FBI said in a court filing.

Jones has ties to Olivet, Michigan, according to her driver's license, but the FBI said she sent the threats from Epping, New Hampshire, where she was staying with her mother, and she was arrested there.

"The allegations in this case should make all of us disgusted," U.S. Attorney Matthew Schneider said. "There is simply no place in Michigan, or in the United States, for chilling threats like this to people who are simply doing what they believe is correct. ... This is not the only threat case related to the election that we are investigating."

Jones appeared in federal court in Concord, New Hampshire, and was told to report to court in Detroit on Jan. 13. She must participate in a mental health program. Her attorney declined to comment.

A message seeking comment from Palmer wasn't immediately returned.

Palmer chaired a raucous meeting of the Board of Canvassers on Nov. 17. She and a fellow Republican on the four-member board initially refused to certify Wayne County's election results, typically a routine step on the way to statewide certification. They cited problems with absentee ballots in Detroit.

The Herald-Palladium Editorial Board: DAVID HOLGATE Publisher DAVE BROWN Managing Editor DALE BREWER Local News Editor KATIE KRAWCZAK Design Editor

GOP isn't going back to Reaganism

Jonah Goldberg

Throughout Donald Trump's captivity of the GOP, many Republicans have held fast to the hope that after he leaves office, the party can return to the sunny Reaganism of the Before Times.

Of course, Trump's bitter-enders have made it clear that they'd be happy to tear down not just the party but the country itself to avoid having to live in a post-Trump world.

It might have seemed as if we hit rock bottom earlier this month, when the Texas attorney general sued the swing states that decided the election for Joe Biden, demanding to have tens of millions of legal votes erased and the election effectively handed to Trump. More than 100 Republican House members and 17 Republican state attorneys general lent their names in support.

The Supreme Court rejected that idiotic suit, but no rebuke or reason seems to be able to divert this movement from where it's headed. Allen West, the head of the Texas Republican Party, issued a statement after the ruling, suggesting that perhaps "law-abiding states should bond together and form a union of states that will abide by the Constitution."

After it was pointed out to him that this smacked of secession talk, West made the bizarre claim that "the real perpetrators of secession are the states, and others, named in the suit by Texas, who enacted illegal and unconstitutional actions resulting in the violation of election laws."

Now, Trump's team appears to be moving past the election altogether since it has failed spectacularly to alter that reality. Instead, Michael Flynn, the recently pardoned former national security adviser, who met with the president Friday night, has been leading calls for martial law to save the Trump presidency.

Over the weekend, Kelli Ward, the head of Arizona's Republican Party, tweeted to assure Trump that Arizona is "working every avenue to stop this coup," using the hashtag "CrossTheRubicon." The best defense of Ward is that she has a thumbless grasp of what that phrase actually means: Julius Caesar's illegal crossing of the Rubicon river with his troops marked the end of the Roman Republic and the beginning of Caesarian tyranny.

As dangerous and ridiculous as such talk is, many Republicans still think this is all a temporary fever, a last gasp of Trump's cynical performative nonsense aimed at venting anger and raising money off his supporters. They think the GOP can still go back to being the party of Reagan.

One reason for skepticism is the latest move by Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas.

Cruz has long been a reliable bellwether for the mood of the broader GOP base, which is why he switched from one of Trump's biggest critics to one of his biggest supporters – and why he offered to argue the Texas lawsuit before the Supreme Court.

No politician in recent memory has wrapped himself more in Reagan's legacy than Cruz. He's read all the biographies, can quote all the big speeches, and has said countless times that he models himself after the Gipper.

So it was revealing that on Friday, Cruz single-handedly scuttled an effort to protect Hong Kongers facing persecution for supporting democracy. The legislation would have offered Temporary Protected Status to Hong Kongers seeking asylum from Chinese authoritarianism and for Hong Kong residents fearful of returning to it. The measure, so uncontroversial that it passed unanimously by voice vote in the House, is vintage Reagan.

"We shall continue America's tradition as a land that welcomes peoples from other countries," Reagan declared in his 1981 speech on immigration "We shall also, with other countries, continue to share in the responsibility of welcoming and resettling those who flee oppression."

Indeed, Cruz issued a statement in June commemorating the 33rd anniversary of Reagan's Berlin Wall speech, saying "America should remember" that "our principles can tear down walls." While the Berlin Wall may be gone, he added, "the evils of tyranny still exist today, and nowhere is that more evident than in Hong Kong, where the Chinese Communist Party has moved to crush Hong Kong's autonomy and strip away their freedoms."

This Christmas season, Cruz says we cannot lend support to potential victims of tyranny because giving them temporary protection could be "used by the Chinese Communists to send even more Chinese spies into the United States." He also suggested that the time-limited, Hong Kong-specific adjustment is really a Trojan horse for the Democrats' radical approach to immigration.

None of this withstands close scrutiny. But that's not the point. If Cruz thinks fighting for Reaganite principles is a political loser, that should tell you something about how far we are from a return to Reaganism.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

Russia's cyberattack no small thing

Jay Ambrose

This is the 21st century, so far a frightening age, and we've just had an act of modernistic war, a hacking attack through which Russia now knows gobs about our government, such as useful details about our nuclear weapons.

It wasn't just our top government agencies that got data sucked up for others to peruse, but something like 18,000 computer-using organizations worldwide, including energy producers, technology developers and Fortune 500 biggies.

While no one knows for certain it was the Russians who have been doing this for nine months without detection, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo says it almost surely was the Russians. President Donald Trump says it wasn't, certifying that it was. Trump hasn't seen it all as a terribly big deal despite worries about possibly disastrous results for the military, the economy, and hundreds of other matters, not the least of it being exactly how our government goes about functioning with Russia tuned in to everything.

The FBI is investigating and President-elect Joe Biden is planning to strike back. Although some say it could take years to set thing right, he is getting set for sensitive negotiations on various topics and Russia has so far not done anything destructive to the computers.

The federal government, which has fruitlessly spent billions to prevent this kind of thing, has itself engaged in cyberattacks to do some spying; in Iran, a cyberattack helped halt weapons development. The government finally learned what was happening through private high-tech outfits that serve us and learned themselves through Russia hitting them.

This cyberattack was not new except in magnitude. We all know about Russians hacking Democratic emails, of course, and, in 2015, the Chinese were able to capture personal information, including Social Security card numbers, on 21.5 million federal employees. President Obama didn't want to get into a big fuss over this, but did say he was going to quit staying at the New York Waldorf Astoria that had been purchased by the Chinese a year earlier.

It's not necessarily governments that pull off these shenanigans. Sometimes its independent criminals. But it appears to have been the Chinese government that hacked 500 million guests at Marriott hotels around the world a couple of years ago for whatever reason. And also during the Obama administration, Russia actually hacked White House emails, including some sent and received by Obama.

The Center for Strategic & International Studies lists more than 100 significant cyberattacks around the world in just this year alone. They involved such countries as Iran, Vietnam, Israel, North Korea, Bahrain, Austria, Turkey, Japan, Italy, Germany, Australia, India, Pakistan, Taiwan, Ukraine, New Zealand and Norway. By the word "significant," the center means such incidents as six-months of spying on the German Parliament.

I used the word "war" in the first paragraph, and yes, what we have here is cyber combat in which a nation in some way binds up, hurts and conceivably even destroys a perceived enemy.

While there's an international agreement that no one will respond to a cyberattack with a military attack, cyberattacks or other ways of interfering seriously with computer networks can be as serious as military attacks.

Consider for a moment how China has been developing its space capacities, recently landing a spacecraft on the far side of the moon. Suppose that someday it destroyed all of our satellites, not that hard. Our society is hugely dependent on satellite communications and the consequences could amount to a kind of shutdown with no quick fix. We need to have a quick fix just as we need vastly improved cyberattack defenses and effective cyberattack offenses.

What this means is that whatever Biden does in response to this latest attack, his administration must spend more on the military, for cyber issues among other matters. I was critical of Trump earlier, but he started a space force and did enlarge a lapsing budget.

Jay Ambrose is a columnist for Tribune News Service.

LETTERS

Paquette betrayed Michigan voters

Editor,

Michigan state Rep. Brad Paquette, representing the 78th District, was one of 15 Michigan Republican legislators who actively supported the bogus Texas lawsuit that was submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in an effort to nullify the Nov. 3 election results in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Wisconsin. The goal of this lawsuit was to flip 62 electoral votes from Biden to Trump and change the winner of the election. Fortunately, the suit was soundly and unanimously rejected by the Supreme Court justices.

Mr. Paquette betrayed his constituents and the rest of Michigan's voters. In order to lend support to Donald Trump's dangerous attempt to undermine our democracy, Paquette signed a brief supporting the totally unfounded and unconstitutional efforts of the attorney general of Texas to meddle in Michigan's election by attempting to convince the Supreme Court to discard the legally cast votes of millions of voters. The Supreme Court demonstrated a commitment to democracy that Paquette clearly lacks.

At this juncture, Brad Paquette has clearly demonstrated that he is not committed to the sanctity of democratic elections. The only thing he is committed to is trying to help Donald Trump steal an election that he clearly and decisively lost.

Paquette's actions are a disgraceful betrayal of Michigan voters. He is not at all worthy of his office. In the next election the voters of the 78th District need to send him packing and elect someone who will defend Michigan voters, not try to undermine our votes.

Ed Shaffer
Galien

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

What's wrong with Biden's 'identity politics'?

Steve Chapman

In 1980, a presidential candidate pledged to appoint the first woman to the Supreme Court. "It is time for a woman to sit among our highest jurists," said Ronald Reagan, and in 1981, he kept his promise by nominating Sandra Day O'Connor.

In 2008, John McCain made history by choosing the party's first female vice presidential candidate. Announcing his choice of Sarah Palin, he said he was "especially proud to say in the week we celebrate the anniversary of women's suffrage" that she was "a devoted wife and a mother of five."

From the criticisms of Joe Biden's choices for his Cabinet and other senior positions, you might think that Democrats had a monopoly on what is condemned as "identity politics" – selecting people because they represent specific groups (racial, ethnic, gender and sexual orientation) rather than because of their qualifications. But both parties have made a point of highlighting their efforts to expand representation beyond white men.

When Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died, Donald Trump promised to appoint a woman to fill the vacancy, and nobody objected. At her confirmation hearing Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, welcomed Amy Coney Barrett as "a fellow woman, a fellow mom, a fellow Midwesterner."

But when Biden named Kamala Harris as his running mate, he was accused of elevating someone underqualified for the job. It was alleged that he chose her only because she checked so many boxes, being Black, Asian American and female. One critic lamented that Biden had not "searched the entire adult population and determined she was the best person for the job." Like that's unusual.

Never mind that Harris had 16 years of experience in elective office at the local, state and federal level, or that she had enough political skills and substantive heft to be taken seriously as a presidential candidate. Never mind that among the credentials cited for the pathetically unprepared Palin was – I'm not making this up – that she knew "how to properly field-dress a moose."

How many vice presidential candidates have been chosen strictly for their brains and experience? Age, religion and state of origin have all been regarded as reasonable criteria. Mike Pence's chief asset was that he could appeal to an important constituency: white evangelical Christians. Palin was not the first who didn't qualify purely on merit. Anyone remember Dan Quayle? Or Spiro Agnew?

As for the Cabinet, Biden would have to make a strenuous effort to find appointees less qualified than many of Trump's. Rex Tillerson, picked for secretary of state, had no diplomatic background. Ditto for U.N. ambassador Nikki Haley.

Barack Obama's first energy secretary, Steven Chu, had a Nobel Prize in physics. Trump's, Rick Perry, had a bachelor's degree in animal science. Ben Carson, an African American neurosurgeon, was tapped to run the Department of Housing and Urban Development even though he had no expertise in housing, aside from living in it.

Doubts have been raised about Susan Rice, a Black woman chosen to head Biden's Domestic Policy Council despite a background almost entirely in foreign and security affairs. But Biden pointed out, accurately, that she "knows government inside and out" and "is among our nation's most senior and experienced government leaders." Not to mention that she worked with him in the White House and earned his confidence.

Washington Examiner columnist Michael Barone insists that "among the public, if not in the press, most people care more about policy than ethnicity, more about competence than ticket-balancing." Easy for a peevish white guy to say. But he shouldn't fret. Biden's appointees will be appreciably more competent than the people they replace.

It's true that Biden has taken care to stock his administration with women, African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, a Native American and an openly gay man. But what's wrong with including groups that have always been underrepresented?

"Identity politics is often a euphemism for 'shrill minority voices I don't like,'" says Jonathan Blanks, a Black scholar at the centrist Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity. "People experience America differently. Including them is valuable for understanding what is wrong and how it needs to be changed."

Conservatives say they long for a time when such differences as race, sexual orientation and gender will be irrelevant. They fail to understand that it will happen only after diversity in leadership is so commonplace that it is barely noticed. When that happy day arrives, some people will owe Biden an apology.

Steve Chapman is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

Studies find having COVID-19 may protect against reinfection

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

Two new studies give encouraging evidence that having COVID-19 may offer some protection against future infections. Researchers found that people who made antibodies to the coronavirus were much less likely to test positive again for up to six months and maybe longer.

The results bode well for vaccines, which provoke the immune system to make antibodies – substances that attach to a virus and help it be eliminated.

Researchers found that people with antibodies from natural infections were "at much lower risk ... on the order of the same kind of protection you'd get from an effective vaccine," of getting the virus again, said Dr. Ned Sharpless, director of the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

"It's very, very rare" to get reinfected, he said.

The institute's study had nothing to do with cancer – many federal researchers have shifted to coronavirus work because of the pandemic.

Both studies used two types of tests. One is a blood test for antibodies, which can linger for many months after infection. The other type of test uses nasal or other samples to detect the virus itself or bits of it, suggesting current or recent infection.

One study, published Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine, involved more than 12,500 health workers at Oxford University Hospitals in the United Kingdom. Among the 1,265 who had coronavirus antibodies at the outset, only two had positive results on tests to detect active infection in the following six months and neither developed symptoms.

That contrasts with the 11,364 workers who initially did not have antibodies; 223 of them tested positive for infection in the roughly six months that followed.

The National Cancer Institute study involved more than 3 million people who had antibody tests from two private labs in the United States. Only 0.3 percent of those who initially had antibodies later tested positive for the coronavirus, compared with 3 percent of those who lacked such antibodies.

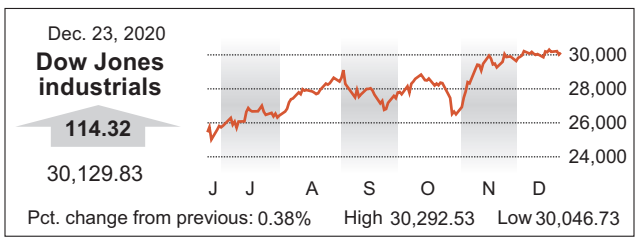
"It's very gratifying" to see that the Oxford researchers saw the same risk reduction – 10 times less likely to have a second infection if antibodies were present, Sharpless said.

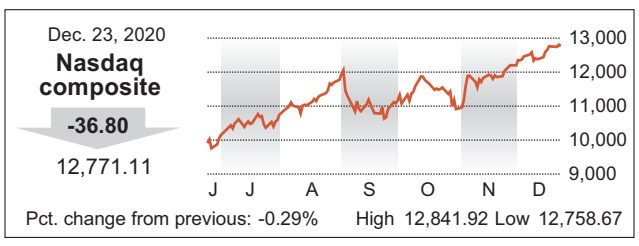
His institute's report was posted on a website scientists use to share research and is under review at a major medical journal.

The findings are "not a surprise ... but it's really reassuring because it tells people that immunity to the virus is common," said Joshua Wolf, an infectious disease specialist at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis who had no role in either study.

Antibodies themselves may not be giving the protection, they might just be a sign that other parts of the immune system, such as T cells, are able to fight off any new exposures to the virus, he said.

MARKETS





Amer Elec Power AEP
$80.71 **-.69 -.8%**
▼ **4-wk.** -5.5% ▼ **YTD** -14.6%

Whirlpool WHR
$189.55 **+1.76 +.9%**
▼ **4-wk.** -5.3% ▲ **YTD** +28.5%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.55	28.75	+.35	+1.2	▼	▼	▲
AEP	AEP	65.14	104.97	80.71	-.69	-0.8	▼	▼	▼
Apple Inc s	AAPL	53.15	137.98	130.96	-.92	-0.7	▲	▲	▲
AutoZone	AZO	684.91	1267.93	1192.99	+2.80	+0.2	▲	▲	▲
BP PLC	BP	14.74	40.08	21.21	+.73	+3.6	▼	▼	▲
CMS Eng	CMS	46.03	69.12	57.61	+.01	...	▼	▼	▼
CocaCola	KO	36.27	60.07	53.08	+.32	+0.6	▼	▲	▲
Comcast	CMCSA	31.71	52.49	50.04	+.01	...	▼	▼	▲
Deere	DE	106.14	272.00	267.94	-1.32	-0.5	▼	▲	▲
Disney	DIS	79.07	179.45	173.55	+3.10	+1.8	▲	▲	▲
DollarTree	DLTR	60.20	114.32	107.62	-1.36	-1.2	▼	▼	▲
ExxonMbl	XOM	30.11	71.37	41.77	+.53	+1.3	▼	▲	▲
FifthThird	FITB	11.10	31.23	27.73	+.80	+3.0	▲	▲	▲
1stSource	SRCE	26.07	52.91	39.85	+1.52	+4.0	▲	▲	▲
FordM	F	3.96	9.57	8.99	+.20	+2.3	▲	▼	▲
GenElec	GE	5.48	13.26	10.86	+.25	+2.4	▲	▲	▲
HomeDp	HD	140.63	292.95	269.81	-.23	-0.1	▼	▼	▼
HorizBcp	HBNC	7.42	19.21	15.48	+.78	+5.3	▲	▲	▲
HuntBncsh	HBAN	6.82	15.22	12.45	+.32	+2.6	▲	▼	▲
IDEX	IEX	104.56	199.50	194.81	-1.58	-0.8	▼	▲	▲
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	123.90	+.29	+0.2	▼	▼	▲
JPMorgCh	JPM	76.91	141.10	125.07	+3.40	+2.8	▲	▲	▲
JohnJn	JNJ	109.16	157.00	151.94	-.78	-0.5	▼	▲	▲
Lowes	LOW	60.00	180.67	162.43	-2.18	-1.3	▼	▲	▼
McDnlds	MCD	124.23	231.91	212.02	+.10	...	▼	▼	▼
Microsoft	MSFT	132.52	232.86	221.02	-2.92	-1.3	▲	▲	▲
MillerHer	MLHR	14.39	43.83	33.98	+.77	+2.3	▼	▼	▲
Perrigo	PRGO	40.01	63.86	43.66	-.19	-0.4	▼	▼	▼
Pfizer	PFE	27.88	43.08	37.44	+.70	+1.9	▼	▲	▲
ProctGam	PG	94.34	146.92	136.34	-.21	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
RepubSvc	RSG	65.37	103.79	95.01	-.81	-0.8	▼	▼	▲
Steelcse	SCS	7.02	21.70	13.07	+.48	+3.8	▼	▲	▲
Stryker	SYK	124.54	242.51	236.33	+1.04	+0.4	▼	▲	▲
TCF Finl	TCF	16.96	47.46	36.55	+.95	+2.7	▲	▲	▲
Target	TGT	90.17	181.17	174.91	+2.56	+1.5	▲	▼	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	63.89	157.07	146.90	-2.87	-1.9	▼	▲	▲
UPS B	UPS	82.00	178.01	172.64	-1.92	-1.1	▼	▲	▲
VerizonCm	VZ	48.84	62.15	58.96	-.03	-0.1	▼	▼	▼
WEC Engy	WEC	68.01	109.53	88.68	-.79	-0.9	▼	▼	▼
WalMart	WMT	102.00	153.66	143.22	-.98	-0.7	▼	▼	▲
WalgBoots	WBA	33.36	59.78	39.87	+.60	+1.5	▼	▲	▲
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.91	22.23	-.14	-0.6	▼	▲	▼
Whrlpl	WHR	64.00	207.30	189.55	+1.76	+0.9	▲	▼	▲
Worthgtn	WOR	19.28	56.43	49.84	+.65	+1.3	▲	▼	▲
XPO Logis	XPO	38.47	123.59	118.30	+.45	+0.4	▼	▲	▲

OBITUARIES

Reva Janet Knight

July 5, 1930 – Dec. 21, 2020

Reva Janet (Buskirk) Knight, 90, passed away peacefully at home on Dec. 21, 2020, surrounded by her children.

She was born July 5, 1930, in Kalamazoo, the only child of Reta (Gilleo) and Fred Peake and Everett Buskirk.

She married the love of her life, Frederick Knight, of Martin, Mich., on March 12, 1947, and celebrated 61 years of marriage before his passing in 2008.

Reva loved her Knight brothers and sisters and took joy in expanding that family with six children of her own. The memories are endless of brother/sister vacations, Sandy Pines, family camping trips, golfing, fishing, card games, and dinner gatherings. Her children grew up with all the love of their aunts, uncles, and cousins as she wanted them to have an abundance of family in their lives.

Reva is known by many for having made their delicious cakes for their special occasions. Her children will always make her special recipes, as she was the mom that always welcomed her children's friends to the dinner table. She leaves a legacy of recipes, favorites include holiday cinnamon rolls, racetrack sloppy joes, and family potato salad. For many years, Reva worked in the cafeteria of Red Arrow Elementary School, always a "mom" feeding hungry children good food.

Reva attended His Place: Cathedral of Faith, and was baptized in Jesus name as she now rests in the arms of her Lord. Her life was a living example of an amazing wife and mother.

Reva is survived by her children: David and Mary Knight, and Roger Knight of Hartford, Diana Zeller of Arizona, Debra Collins of Coloma, Fred and Gale Knight of Lawrence, and Robert and Kathy Knight of Dorr. Reva was blessed with 17 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren, all of which she loved deeply. She is preceded in death by a son, at birth, Gordon Leroy; and her husband, Frederick Knight.

The family has entrusted Calvin Funeral Home in Hartford with arrangements and will celebrate her life with a private service on Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to His Place: Cathedral of Faith, Covert, Michigan or Caring Circle Hospice of Lakeland, St. Joseph, Michigan. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

MaryLou Abbott

June 3, 1931– Dec. 19, 2020

MaryLou was born on June 3, 1931, on her family's Bee and Tobacco farm in southern Missouri, which they later lost due to the depression.

The family migrated up here to Benton Harbor, where she grew up at the City of Mary, an affiliate of the House of David; a self-sustaining community that thrived during the depression and war years, and where the Honnicutt family had 400 beehives.

She left the commune after graduating from Stevensville High School. She always had a big heart and much compassion for children and animals in need, and for the Native American Indians.

She retired from the University of Notre Dame where she was employed for 19 years as the administrative assistant for the director of the student health services.

MaryLou passed away Dec. 19, 2020.

MaryLou is survived by her children: William Robert Sykes, Rebecca Sykes Smythe, Carolyn Sykes Moyer, Kathryn Gitchell (Gary), Paul Edward Sykes (Cyndi); and her stepchildren: Gina Abbott and Donna Silber; and her grandchildren: Natasha Sykes Rawson, Michael Louis Sykes, Emily Smythe, Christopher Moyer, Thomas Rissman, Scarlett Cabanaw; and her great-grandchildren: Baya, Kaylee, Morgan, Lou, James, Heidi, and Randy.

Arrangements are being handled by Purely Cremations-Starks Family Funeral Homes.

Death Notices

MaryLou Abbott, 89, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 19, 2020. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Jack R. Hess, 70, of Coloma died Dec. 23, 2020, at Ascension Borges Hospital, Kalamazoo. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Johnnie L. Howard, 70 of Benton Harbor died Dec. 13, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St Joseph. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Jeremy Lodholtz, 33, of Niles died Dec. 20, 2020, at Memorial Hospital, South Bend. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Reva Knight, 90, died Dec. 21, 2020. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

JoAntha Raines, 62, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 13, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Eric Weston, 41, of Hartford died Dec. 21, 2020. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

David Wickham, 62, of Baroda died Dec. 17, 2020. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Eric Steven Weston

Dec. 6, 1979 – Dec. 21, 2020

Eric Steven Weston, 41, of Hartford passed away suddenly Monday, Dec. 21, 2020, at home.

Eric was born on Dec. 6, 1979, in Paw Paw, the son of Richard and Debra (Davis) Weston. He enjoyed riding the tractor on the farm, working on cars, and he enjoyed helping his father.

Eric married the former Caryl Morris, on Apr. 13, 2012, and she survives, along with three children: Darian Weston, Melissa Weston and Alyssia Weston, all of Hartford; his parents: Richard and Debra of Hartford; three sisters: Michelle Aceves of Haleyville, Ala., Angela (Robert) Gendron of Hartford and Tammy (Casey) Bushouse of Otsego; a brother, Lance Weston of Redford; and many other family members.

Eric is preceded in passing by a brother, Marcus Davis; his paternal grandparents: Lawrence and Beatrice Weston; and his maternal grandparents: Phoebe and Joel Davis.

The family will welcome friends from 4 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, at the First Congregational Church of Bangor, where the service to honor his memory will take place at 5 p.m., with Pastor Dave Markel officiating. Following the service, Eric will be cremated and interment will take place in Keeler Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Eric's name may be made to WMU Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services. The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Siegfried J. Seifert

Feb. 16, 1931 – Dec. 11, 2020

Siegfried J. Seifert, 89, of St. Joseph, formerly Chicago Heights, Ill., passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 at The Willows, St. Joseph.

Siegfried was born on Feb, 16, 1931, in Saxony, Germany.

He married the former Ursula Sinkwitz in February of 1951.

Siegfried worked as a tool and die maker at Ford Motor Company for over 30 years. He loved music, arts and was a founding member of the Illiana Jazz Club.

Siegfried is survived by his wife of 69 years, Ursula Seifert; daughters: Viola (Lawrence) Wuske and Victoria (Mark) Thies; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sons: Ingo and Gilbert Seifert.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph. Those wishing to send a condolence online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society – Southwestern Michigan Yeager Family Pet Shelter.

David Wesley Wickham

April 3, 1958 – Dec. 17, 2020

David Wesley Wickham, 62, of Baroda passed away Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020, at his home.

The family is planning a celebration of David's life for this spring. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

David was born on April 3, 1958, in St. Joseph, the son of the late Donald and June (Reed) Wickham.

He graduated class of 1976 from Lakeshore High School in Stevensville. He was nicknamed Butter Dave as a toddler, from his father. David was a huge fan of the U-M football and listening to Beatles music. His hobbies included playing guitar, and hunting deer, pheasant and turkey. He was also the winner of several turkey size contests. Dave loved his family and looked forward to family gatherings large or small; family meant everything.

Survivors include brothers: Charles and Brian Wickham; sisters: Christine Weidler and Cathleen Anstey; David also left behind his significant other of many years, Roberta "Bobbie" Perrigen; six nieces, and three nephews: Valerie, Joseph and Daniel Anstey, Erin and Holly Palecek, Matt Weidler, Susan Wickham, Amy Turner and Emma Boardman; and 16 great nieces and nephews.

Arrangements entrusted to Pike Funeral and Cremation Service, Boyd Chapel, 919 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman.

Politicians and vaccines: Set an example or cut in line?

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As the first round of COVID-19 vaccinations trickled out across the United States, many members of Congress lined up at the Capitol physician's office to get inoculated.

President-elect Joe Biden got vaccinated, too, as did Vice President Mike Pence. Both rolled up their sleeves live on television to receive their shots.

For some of America's political leaders, there are practical imperatives for getting vaccinated early: their own risk factors, ensuring continuity at the highest reaches of the U.S. government and helping build public confidence in the vaccine. But there are also tricky optics for politicians to navigate, particularly with supplies of the vaccines still exceedingly limited and millions of elderly Americans and essential workers weeks away from being inoculated.

"We want to ensure that everyone feels safe about this vaccine and sees some of the more prominent members of society getting it, but also ensure people don't say 'what about us?'" said Utibe R. Essien, an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh.

With the pandemic raging across the country, and more than 320,000 Americans already dead, some lawmakers with access to the vaccine said they were indeed planning to wait until more Americans could get their shots before getting theirs.

"I intend to take the vaccine," tweeted Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, a Republican. "But, because I'm healthy & relatively young, I'm going to wait until seniors & frontline workers have the opportunity to take it first."

Minnesota Rep. Ilhan Omar, a liberal Democrat who lost her father to the virus, tweeted that it was "disturbing to see members be 1st to get vaccine while most frontline workers, elderly and infirm in our districts, wait."

The debate over politicians' access to the vaccine is relatively specific to the United States. Though a handful of foreign leaders, like Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, have gotten publicly vaccinated, many have refrained.

In Canada, for example, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said he has no problem waiting for his shot.

"When there's a time for healthy people in their 40s to get their vaccine, when it's our turn, I will be as close to the front of that line as I can get," Trudeau told CP24 television. "I am super enthusiastic about getting vaccines, and I certainly want to show people that they're safe and that we trust our doctors, but there's a lot of vulnerable people who need to get these vaccines much quicker than I will, and we're going to make sure that they get it first, because that's the priority."

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1995 – 25 years ago

Rock 'n' roll has left a huge cultural footprint on America, and Southwest Michigan has not escaped. From Niles native Tommy James to South Haven's D'arcy of Smashing Pumpkins, the area has produced musicians of national note. The Herald-Palladium is producing a Sunday magazine piece about rock 'n' roll and rhythm and blues in Southwest Michigan, and you can help. We are hoping to get recollections from fans, musicians, promoters, disc jockeys and club owners regarding local bands, clubs, concerts and memories of those who made it big. We are additionally interested in photos and taking pictures of appropriate memorabilia.

1985 – 35 years ago

Lakeshore High School defeated Benton Harbor High School 240-205 in an exhibition match in the WHFB Academic Challenge on Saturday at The Orchards Mall in Benton Township. The team from Benton Harbor still earned a victory even though it lost the exhibition match. Benton Harbor's scheduled opponent, South Haven, dropped out of the WHFB Academic Challenge and Benton Harbor was awarded a forfeit victory.

1970 – 50 years ago

St. Joseph Power Squadron will teach a course in seamanship and small boat handling starting Jan. 4, Commander Tome Millar announced today. Classes will be each Monday evening for 12 weeks. The course will be given at Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library in St. Joseph. The course will cover seamanship, rules of the nautical road, lights on vessels, aids to navigation, federal requirements, use of the mariners compass, charting and courtesy afloat.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Dec. 24, the 359th day of 2020. There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve.

Highlight in history:

On Dec. 24, 1814, the United States and Britain signed the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812 following ratification by both the British Parliament and the U.S. Senate.

On this date:

In 1524, Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama – who had discovered a sea route around Africa to India – died in Cochin, India.

In 1865, several veterans of the Confederate Army formed a private social club in Pulaski, Tennessee, that was the original version of the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1913, 73 people, most of them children, died in a crush of panic after a false cry of "Fire!" during a Christmas party for striking miners and their families at the Italian Hall in Calumet, Michigan.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of Allied forces in Europe as part of Operation Overlord.

In 1968, the Apollo 8 astronauts, orbiting the moon, read passages from the Old Testament Book of Genesis during a Christmas Eve telecast.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Snow Showers Likely	Snow Showers Likely	Snow Showers Likely	Mostly Cloudy	Chance Rain & Snow	Scattered Snow
25°	18°	27° / 21°	33° / 25°	40° / 28°	35° / 23°

Local Outlook

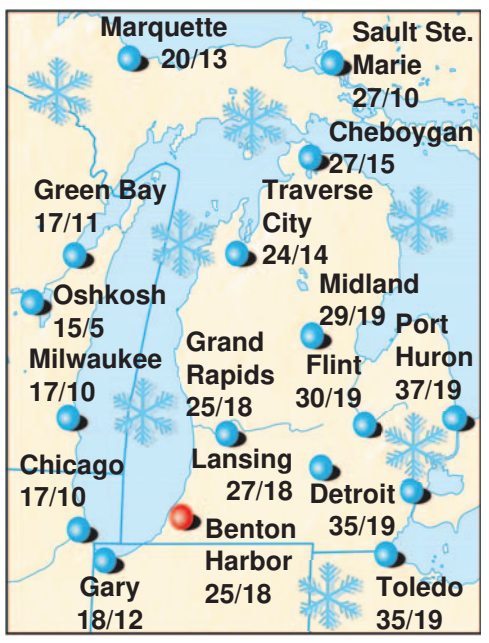
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with an 85% chance of snow showers, high temperature of 25°, humidity of 64%. West wind 16 to 21 mph. Snow accumulation of less than one inch possible. Expect cloudy skies tonight with an 85% chance of snow showers, overnight low of 18°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	8:12 a.m.
Sunset	5:18 p.m.
Moonrise	2:09 p.m.
Moonset	2:49 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
12/29	1/6	1/13	1/20

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	55°
Low	34°
Normal High	33°
Normal Low	19°
Record High	63° in 2015
Record Low	-10° in 2000

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	1.21"
Normal for month	1.67"
Year to date	33.24"
Normal Year to date	37.00"

Air Quality

Yesterday 51

Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-150	Sensitive
151-200	Unhealthy

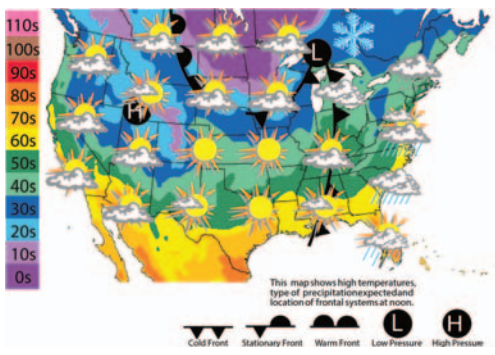
Weather Trivia

About how long does it take thunder to travel one mile? ?

Answer: Around 5 seconds.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Dec. 24, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, WSW wind 17 to 25 kt. Snow showers. Widespread freezing spray between 9am and 11am. Waves 5 to 6 ft. Water temperature 48 degrees. Tonight, NW wind 18 to 23 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with widespread snow showers, highs in the 20s. West southwest wind 11 to 19 mph. Expect cloudy skies Friday with widespread snow showers, highs in the 20s. Northwest wind 15 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with widespread snow showers, highs in the 20s and 30s. West wind 16 to 21 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Friday with widespread snow showers, highs in the 20s. West wind 17 to 21 mph.

Louise Wrege / HP staff

Staff from the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency talk to people in the long line of cars Wednesday during the holiday food giveaway.

FOOD

From page A1

Vidt said they worked with staff from the Berrien County Health Department to come up with a way to distribute the food while keeping everyone safe.

She said they were able to provide each family with more food than in previous years because of the federal CARES Act money that was used to buy some of the food. Feeding America also provided some of the food, along with numerous donations.

Vidt said they couldn't have done it without the help of more than 40 volunteers.

Jennifer Green from Covert said she helps the agency distribute food every month.

"I feel like it's my duty to give back to the community," she said. "It feels great to see their faces and to see how thankful they are."

> **"The community has been so good to us, this is the least we can do."**
>
> **BRANDON HANEY**
> SMCAA volunteer and championship director for 2022 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship

Another volunteer was Brandon Haney, championship director for the 2022 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship in Benton Harbor, which donated the turkeys and dressing.

"The community has been so good to us, this is the least we can do," he said.

For further information about the community action agency, visit www.smcaa.com, or call 925-9077.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

LIGHTS

From page A1

neighborhood has taken notice of Carter's efforts, with one adjacent household stringing up one strand of lights and hanging a sign with two words: "I quit."

A steady line of traffic along Roslin Road comes to see the show. Carter said hundreds of vehicles passed by to look at his light show last Saturday.

On Monday, Carter was posted at the end of his driveway as the temperatures dropped below 40 degrees and rain began to fall. Even with it being the beginning of the work week, Carter was flagged down by visitors about every five minutes.

His favorite piece of lawn decoration is the blow-up figure of Santa's outhouse, which shows Mr. Claus opening and closing an inflatable door. The blow-up even has a fake roll of toilet paper attached to the outhouse.

He tries to buy lights and blow-ups from the area – specifically LED lights from Menard's – but has had to get creative. He bought the Grinch costume online, and found a St. Joseph resident who has become known for his specialized light shows.

"Last week I drove to Fort Wayne and bought another 4,000 lights, which I put on top of the roof," Carter said.

Measuring holiday cheer in watts

The amount of electricity takes its toll.

Carter said he previously paid a $600 electric bill in one month. That prompted him to install several solar panels on the house to charge during the day and keep his Christmas lights on at night. The bills are not as bad, but he still can't completely run them off solar energy.

At one point on Monday, he had to reset a breaker from the house when a series of lights went off.

Tony Wittkowski / HP staff

An inflatable Santa Claus emerging from an outhouse is among Nicolas Carter's favorite decorations that he has installed in front of his Benton Township property.

"If you put too much on one, you start to blow (breakers)," Carter said with a laugh. "You have to get creative."

In addition to the light show, Carter has holiday-themed projections on his house and garage door, along with music boxes stationed throughout the yard that play different songs, depending on what part of the property visitors are on.

"These play half a dozen or so songs," he said. "The boxes play the songs themselves."

To make up for any excess electrical intake that his solar panels can't cover, Carter stationed a donation box at the foot of his driveway.

When asked how much money he has invested in his light extravaganza, Carter estimates that it's been between $12,000 and $15,000.

"The good blow-ups are couple hundred bucks a piece," he said. "I'm proud of (the) Olaf (blow-up). But people can't see it because it's toward the back."

Carter's wife, Julie, told The Herald-Palladium that has joined in on the fun. She has helped to buy a few items and has occasionally posed as Mrs. Claus alongside Carter's Grinch.

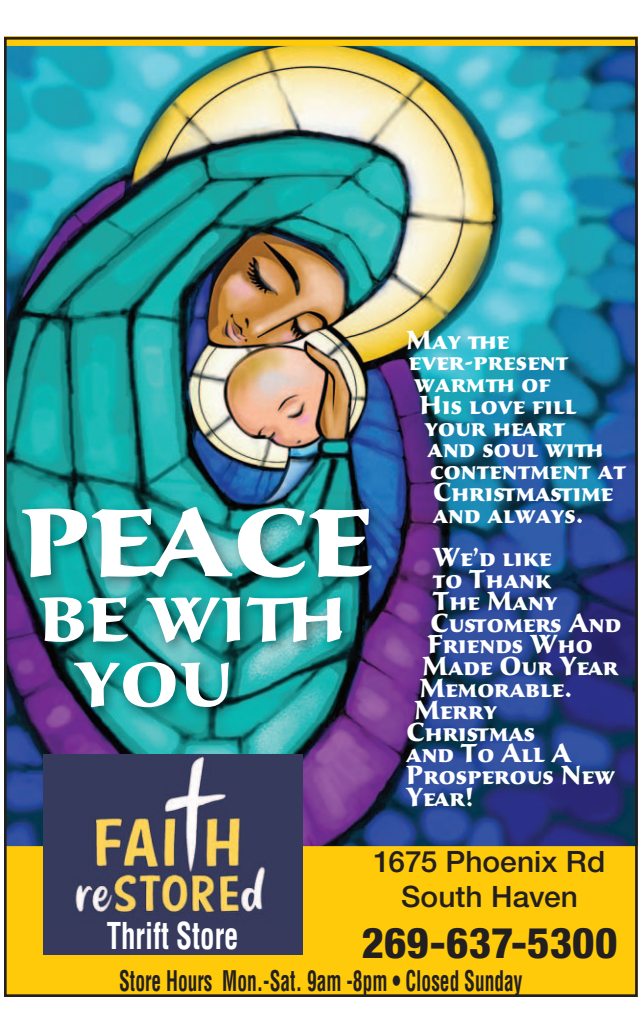
"It makes his heart so happy to do this and loves seeing everyone else's enjoyment," Julie said. "He passes out candy canes and talks to people as much as he can when they stop and he is home. He likes hearing where everyone is from."

Putting away the decorations is a large effort itself. Carter said he meticulously dries the blow-ups and slowly packs away the lights between sheets of paper to prevent entanglements.

Carter is already prepping for next year's festivities. He plans to build a Santa's workshop over the summer, and also create paths in the yard for people to walk on.

He does it for one reason: "Making people smile brings so much joy to me," he said.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski


PEACE BE WITH YOU
May the ever-present warmth of His love fill your heart and soul with contentment at Christmastime and always.
We'd like to Thank The Many Customers And Friends Who Made Our Year Memorable. Merry Christmas and To All A Prosperous New Year!
FAITH reSTOREd Thrift Store
1675 Phoenix Rd
South Haven
269-637-5300
Store Hours Mon.-Sat. 9am -8pm • Closed Sunday

To the Nicest Folks We Know...
Thanks for making our year so special with your kindness and generosity. We hope this Christmas delivers everything on your wish list, including new memories you'll cherish for a lifetime.
Happy Holidays, Everyone!
FOUR SEASONS spa & pool SERVICES
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160 N Paw Paw St., Coloma, MI (269) 468-3118
620 Phillips St., South Haven, MI (269) 637-4499

We wish you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS!
May good cheer, love and good fortune make this a Christmas to remember.
Thanks for making this past year unforgettable for us.
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www.dimaggiospizzaandburgers.com

hp SPORTS

Expanded playoff could've settled controversy

Well the College Football Playoff committee has finally decided on its final four, with controversy once again on whether Notre Dame or Texas A&M should have been placed in the No. 4 spot.

Al Arend
Big Al's Picks

Did anyone other than A&M fans really think that their Aggies would win out over media darling and sacred cow Notre Dame?

But in this pandemic season where so many games, including a bunch of bowls, were canceled due to the virus, it would have been a perfect time to expand the playoffs to eight teams. But that won't happen until the current playoff TV contract (which runs through 2026) is altered.

Under the final CFP rankings here would have been the matchups for an 8-team playoff:

No. 1 Alabama (11-0) vs. No. 8 Cincinnati (9-0).

No. 4 Notre Dame (10-1) vs. No. 5 Texas A&M (8-1).

No. 2 Clemson (10-1) vs. No. 7 Florida (8-3).

No. 3 Ohio State (6-0) vs. No. 6 Oklahoma (8-2).

Wow !! The ND-A&M controversy could have been settled on the field of play.

I'll discuss who's going to win it all in next week's column plus my New Year's Day bowl predictions.

Idle thought

The "great" Don Brown couldn't cut it as a "Michigan Man". Oh well, they had to blame someone – can't blame Jim Harbaugh, he's a "Michigan Man."

On with the forecast:

COLLEGE
Last week: 16-4, .800
Season: 336-108, .757
Bowl games
TODAY
New Mexico
Houston 33, Hawaii 22
FRIDAY
Camellia
Buffalo 31, Marshall 27
SATURDAY
First Responders
Louisiana 42, UTSA 23
Lending Tree
Georgia St. 28, W. Kentucky 27
Mortgage Cure
C. Carolina 34, Liberty 24
TUESDAY
Cheez-It
Oklahoma St. 31, Miami 28
Alamo
Texas 38, Colorado 28
WEDNESDAY
Mayo
Wisconsin 28, Wake Forest 23
Music City
Iowa 34, Missouri 17
Cotton
Florida 42, Oklahoma 38
THURSDAY
Armed Forces
Tulsa 28, Mississippi St. 27
Arizona
San Jose St. 42, Ball State 31
Liberty
Army 27, W. Virginia 24
Texas
TCU 35, Arkansas 31

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Buchanan's Fazi earns all-state honors

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Buchanan linebacker Gavin Fazi has been named to the Associated Press Division 5-6 football first team.

Fazi led the Bucks with 71 tackles, including 17 for loss and two sacks. He was named the Berrien-Cass-St. Joseph Conference Defensive MVP. He also played tight end and caught 23 passes for 411 yards and seven touchdowns.

Buchanan running back Johnny Rager earned honorable mention. The BCS Offensive MVP, Rager rushed for 528 yards and seven touchdowns, and caught 13 passes for 195 yards and two scores. He played linebacker and had 5.5 tackles for loss and four interceptions, two of which he returned for touchdowns.

Buchanan finished its season 8-1, reaching the district final. Coach Mark Frey also received honorable mention for guiding the Bucks to a big year in his second season as coach. Buchanan was 1-8 in the two years before Frey took over, but improved to 3-6 his first season and won the BCS title this season.

Montague's Collins named Player of the Year

Pat Collins fell just short of a state championship as Montague's starting quarterback in 1992, when the Wildcats lost to Detroit St. Martin de Porres at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Twenty-eight years later, Drew Collins is hoping to be able to one-up his dad, who is now in his 17th season as Montague's head coach.

Drew Collins, and his father, have earned one accolade along the way.

Montague's 6-foot-3, 208-pound senior quarterback and team captain has been voted The Associated Press Division 5-6 Player of the Year by a panel of sports writers. Meanwhile, Pat Collins got the nod as AP Coach of the Year.

"The best end result would be a state championship," Drew Collins said earlier this season. "That would be really special."

Another hurdle cropped up Tuesday when the Michigan High School Athletic Association announced another pause to the playoffs after they had been given the green light to resume last week.

Montague (9-0), which has been ranked No. 1 in Division 6 all season, will host Montrose (8-1) in the regional finals. The game had been set for Jan. 2, but now it's unclear when it will happen.

Drew Collins and the Wildcats have been knocking on the door to a state title the past couple seasons.

In 37 career varsity games, Collins has completed 65 percent of 582 pass attempts for 5,784 yards and 63 touchdowns. He has run for for 1,820 yards, gaining 5.6 per carry, and 38 scores.

Before this postseason was stunted, Collins was 112 of 162 for 1,412 yards with 17 touchdowns and just two interceptions. He has run for 613 yards with 15 touchdowns. Collins also starts at safety/outside linebacker. And, he's averaging 47.4 yards on his five pooch-style punts with three being downed inside the 20.

Collins recently received offers from Northwood and Michigan Tech. He's also been in contact with other Division II schools and has offers or opportunities with Division III or NAIA programs.

Montague dominated the All-State squad with linemen Walker Martin and Hayden McDonald as well as kicker Andrew Kooi also earning a spot on the first team.

The Division 5-6 All-State first team also includes Montrose's Bobby Skinner at quarterback; Muskegon Oakridge's Corey Vanderputte, Kingsley's Owen Graves, Constantine's Brayden Clark and Grayling's David Milliken at running back; Erie-Mason's Tanner Herrera, Glen Lake's Finn Hogan, Blissfield's Zack Horky, Grand Rapids Catholic

See **ALL-STATE**, page B3

Offensive outburst

Bruce Kluckhohn / AP
Chicago quarterback Mitchell Trubisky celebrates after throwing a touchdown pass during the first half of Sunday's game.

Point production: Trubisky, offense suddenly thriving

By GENE CHAMBERLAIN
Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — From the doldrums of three weeks ago to now, the Chicago Bears' offense led by quarterback Mitchell Trubisky has made a major turnaround.

After reaching at least 30 points in three straight games for the first time since 2013, the offense has revived playoff hopes for the Bears (7-7) heading into Sunday's road game against the Jacksonville Jaguars (1-13).

"Guys are excited to be on the field," Trubisky said. "We're excited to have the football, and there's just a strong, quiet confidence about us that all 11 guys in the huddle are going to get the job done."

The Bears felt so confident on offense Sunday they chose to take the ball to start their 33-27 win over the Minnesota Vikings rather than rely on their dependable defense first and kick off.

It's something they probably wouldn't have considered at midseason.

"I think we keep getting better each week as an offense, which is important," Trubisky said. "We're gaining confidence as a unit, and right now. We're executing at a high rate, which obviously helps consistency across the board. And we've been efficient."

Behind Trubisky and running back David Montgomery, the Bears have risen from last in the league in rushing to 24th, and from 31st in total offense to 27th. As a result, they've stayed within a game of the Arizona Cardinals in pursuit of the final wild-card berth.

Gone are many of the penalties and turnovers of early season. They've been replaced by points. It didn't hurt that they did it against several struggling defenses, though.

"Everybody is in the same line of thought," coach Matt Nagy said. "We're all thinking the same. We're all speaking the same language. If a bad play happens, there's no negativity. It's positive vibes. And that's what has helped. And then it's the mentality of these players, too. They're in a really good place mentally.

"There's a huge togetherness with them right now. And you know, that was a struggle for a lot of this year. We were searching."

They found what they needed with a revamped offensive line and Montgomery's running. He went over 100 yards rushing in three of the last four games and the team did it four straight, a number the Bears failed to reach for seven straight games earlier.

Now they're moving the pocket for Trubisky with bootleg passes to spread out the field on fakes off the running game.

"We're doing well with the play-actions and movements right now, and the outside zone run," Trubisky said. "And then I would say just overall, our tempo in and out of the huddle has been helping us.

"So we're finding an identity a little bit, we're catching onto it."

The newfound confidence included Trubisky asking for and receiving certain plays within the offense. He's so confident now, he's even thinking more about the future.

The team declined his fifth-year contract option for 2021 during the past offseason and this could be his last bid to remain with the team.

"I would say I just wanted to control my own destiny," Trubisky said. "I'm controlling what I can control at this point. And I'm just trying to take control of my career and put it in the direction I want it to go.

"Sometimes you gotta be a little more assertive and speak up for what you want to happen, for what you believe in, and just go out there and continue to put the team first, like I have."

The defense carried the offense when the Bears lost six straight. As a result of that stretch, they still need help in the playoff chase, with at least one more Cardinals loss. Then they have

See **BEARS**, page B3

MHSAA announces winter sports timeline

By HP STAFF

The Michigan High School Athletic Association's Representative Council approved a new calendar for the winter sports season, which would finish by the end of March as usual despite not starting until Jan. 22.

"The council has been working to give schools as much local flexibility as possible while putting together their winter seasons schedules," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said in a statement. "This flexible planning has been required of us all since June, and we will continue to advocate for kids in all seasons with our continued goal of three seasons played to completion."

Winter sports teams are currently prohibited from practicing until Jan. 16, based on orders from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to decrease the spread of COVID-19. If the pause ends as scheduled, winter sports teams will resume practice on Jan. 16. Competition will begin on Jan. 22 for basketball, bowling, ice hockey and boys swimming and diving, and on Jan. 25 for competitive cheer, gymnastics and wrestling.

Competition limits were changed for wrestling to allow two dates of competition per week, with events limited to four teams at a site and three matches per student per day.

All postseason tournaments in the lower peninsula would take place entirely in March. Wrestling would be the first to start, with districts held the week of March 1.

Boys and girls basketball districts would both take place in the second week of March, with the girls playing on March 8, 10 and 12, and boys on March 9, 11 and 13. Regionals would take place the following week, with the tournament concluding the week after. Girls finals would be held on March 26 and boys finals on March 27.

Bowling and boys swimming and diving would also hold their finals the weekend of March 26-27, along with wrestling individual finals. Team wrestling and competitive cheer finals would be the weekend of March 19-20.

The start dates for spring sports would not be affected under the current plan.

OKC-Houston game postponed, Harden out after COVID violation

Carmen Mandato / AP
Houston's James Harden controls the ball during the first half of a Dec. 17 preseason game.

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The James Harden soap opera in Houston now comes with a canceled season opener – and a $50,000 fine for the league's leading scorer.

Houston's opener against the Oklahoma City Thunder on Wednesday night was scrapped after coronavirus cases and Harden's violation of the NBA's COVID-19 protocols left the Rockets without the league-mandated eight players available.

It was a dispiriting blow to the NBA on just the second night of an uncertain season launching with the pandemic still raging.

The NBA announced the postponement in a release that said three Rockets players had returned tests that were either positive or inconclusive and that four other players were quarantined because of contract

See **GAME**, page B3

PRIME TIME TV

THURSDAY EVENING DEC. 24

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	📽 ★★ The Greatest Showman ('17) Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron. (P). (DVS)				Prep-Landing	Prep & Landing
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	Young Sheldon	:31 B Positive	:01 Mom CC	The Unicorn	FBI A bomb detonates at a restaurant.	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	📽 ★★★★ It's a Wonderful Life ('46) James Stewart. An angel saves a distraught businessman from suicide. CC (DVS)					
FOX 17 22 28 32	Modern Family	The Resident "Support System"		Prodigal Son "The Professionals"		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Radar-Michigan	Southold Dance Theatre-The Nutcracker		Purdue 86th Anniversary Christmas Show		Goshen College Festival of Carols 2020	
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2020 The annual concert event. CC			Whose Line Is It?	News	Seinfeld CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	Dateline CC		Dateline "Secret Lives" CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2020 The annual concert event. CC			Whose Line Is It?	King of Queens	King of Queens
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Risk and Reward"		A Lerner Christmas		Nightly News	
WGN 9	News	black-ish CC	black-ish	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	:00 📽 ★★★ Back to the Future ('85) Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd. CC				📽 ★★★ Back to the Future Part II ('89) Michael J. Fox. CC		
AMC	6:00 📽 Elf ('03)	📽 ★★★ National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation ('89) Chevy Chase. CC				:15 📽 ★★ Four Christmases ('08)	
Animal	The Ir	Crikey... Irwins		Crikey... Irwins		Crikey... Irwins	
BET	Nutty Professor II: The Klumps			📽 ★★ Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins			
Big Ten	Penn	The B1G Moment		Ohio State		B1G	Tie
Bravo	★★ Last Holiday	:15 📽 ★★ Last Holiday ('06, Comedy) Queen Latifah. A terminally ill woman lives it up on vacation. CC					Diary of Mad
Cartoon	We Bare Bears: The Movie ('20)			Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers
Cinemax	Pearl Harbor ('01)	📽 ★★ The Fighting Temptations ('03) Cuba Gooding Jr., Beyoncé Knowles. CC				:05 📽 ★★ Fame ('09) Asher Book.	
CMT	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man
CNBC	S. Smith	Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank CC	
CNN	OutFront	Erin Burnett OutFront		The Eighties CC		The Eighties CC	
Comedy	Office	Office	Office	Creek	Creek	Creek	Creek
Discovery	6:00 BattleBots	BattleBots "Blood, Sweat and Gears" (N) CC				Moonshiners: Master Distiller (N) CC	
Disney	Stuck	Disney Channel's		Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Sydney
DIY	Galveston	Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters	
E!	6:15 📽 Sister Act			📽 ★★ Monster-in-Law ('05) CC			Monster
ESPN	Heisman	SportsCenter Prsnt		SportsCenter Prsnt		SportsCenter Prsnt	
ESPN2	The Jump	UFC Reloaded					
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Nov. 25, 2006.				College Football	
Food	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Lions	Red Wings Classics Game 3.					
Freefrm	Dr. Seuss'	:15 Frosty the Snowman CC		8:50 Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer		9:55 Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town	
FX	Despicable Me 3	📽 ★★ Dr. Seuss' The Grinch ('18) Voices of Benedict Cumberbatch. CC				📽 ★★ Dr. Seuss' The Grinch	
Golf	Golf	A Very Feherty		A Very Feherty		A Very Feherty	
Hallmark	Cmas Carousel	📽 On the 12th Date of Christmas ('20) Mallory Jansen.			📽 Chateau Christmas ('20) Merritt Patterson. CC		
HBO	The Photograph	📽 ★★ Last Christmas ('19) Emilia Clarke. CC			:45 📽 ★★ A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas ('11) CC		
History	Brothers	Band of Brothers CC			:21 Band of Brothers "Points"		
HGTV	Flip	Flip	Flip	Flip	Flip	Flip	Flip
Learning	Stories	Untold Stories of ER		Untold Stories of ER		Untold Stories of ER	
Lifetime	Merry Liddle	📽 Merry Liddle Christmas Wedding ('20) Kelly Rowland, Thomas Cadrot. CC				Let's Meet Again on Christmas Eve ('20)	
MSNBC	ReidOut	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Way I See It	
MTV	:00 📽 ★★★ Bad Santa ('03)			📽 ★★ Bad Santa 2 ('16, Comedy) CC			
NBCSCH	Footvol	Chicago Blackhawks Classics					Boxing
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Football Teams TBA. CC					
Nick	Nickmas	Sponge.	Loud	Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Life Be	Life Below Zero (N)		Life Below Zero (N)		Cursed Places-Map	
Oxygen	:00 Snapped	Buried in the Backyard (N) CC		Claus Went to Georgia (N)		Heartbreak on Christmas (N)	
Parmt	★ Grown Ups ('10)		📽 ★ Grown Ups 2 ('13) Adam Sandler. CC				
Showtime	6:30 📽 ★★★ Apollo 13 ('95) Tom Hanks. CC			📽 ★★ Armageddon ('98) Bruce Willis. A hero tries to save Earth from an asteroid.			
Starz	:12 Outlander	:11 Outlander "Man of Worth" CC		:14 📽 ★★★ Little Women ('19, Drama) Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson. CC			
STZENC	6:20 📽 Elf ('03)	📽 ★★★ Elf ('03, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan. CC			:40 📽 ★★★ Elf ('03) Will Ferrell, James Caan. CC		
SyFy	5:57 📽 ★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1			:10 📽 ★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 ('11) CC (DVS)			
TBS	Big Bang Theory	📽 ★★★★ A Christmas Story ('83) Peter Billingsley, Darren McGavin. CC (DVS)				📽 ★★★★ A Christmas Story ('83)	
TCM	Christmas-Con.	📽 ★★★ The Bishop's Wife ('47, Fantasy) Cary Grant, Loretta Young. CC				📽 The Shop Around the Corner	
TMC	Urban Cowboy	📽 ★★★ Your Sister's Sister ('11) Emily Blunt. CC			📽 Olympic Dreams ('19) Nick Kroll, Alexi Pappas. CC		
TNT	:00 Bones	Bones CC		📽 ★★★★ A Christmas Story ('83)			
Travel	Terrifying	Yuletide Yeti		Tidings- Terror		Sca. Christmas	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	:44 Chrisley Knows Best (N)		Chrisley Knows
VH1	:00 📽 ★★ Bad Boys ('95, Action) CC				📽 ★★★ Beverly Hills Cop		
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC	

Mom feels betrayed by friend who snitched on her daughter

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have recently found out that someone I thought was a good friend is the person who snitched and got my daughter in serious trouble at school. Our daughters attended the same preschool, middle school and high school. Although they were friends, the friendship was more between us moms.

Before middle school graduation, the students had an outing at the beach. Some of the girls, my daughter included, decided to bring vodka and orange juice. A few days later, my daughter was called to the principal's office where she was thoroughly reprimanded. Any awards she was to receive were rescinded. I learned from one of the teachers that this "friend" is the person who turned her in.

Why didn't she come to me and tell me? I almost feel like she wanted my daughter to get in trouble. I have run into her a couple of times and have been cold and distant, but I want to confront her. I was going to write and tell her why. Do you think this is a good idea? – Furious In Florida

DEAR FURIOUS: I don't blame you for being upset, but an eighth-grader bringing alcohol to a school celebration is wrong on many levels. I do NOT advise putting anything in writing. Convey your message and get the answer you want by doing it directly, face to face.

DEAR ABBY: Thirty years ago, I dated a guy I'll call Allen. We had a child together. Our relationship ended when I found out I was pregnant. He married a woman he chose over me. I later married someone else, whose name is on my child's birth certificate.

Fast-forward 30 years. We are now back in each other's lives. I told my son about his biological father, and they are getting to know each other. Allen has children from his marriage, which lasted about 25 years. His wife is now deceased.

Allen's two other children and his parents and extended family know nothing about our son. He's afraid to tell them, although it was before they were born and before he was married. Do you think he should tell everyone? – Secret Keeper In California

DEAR SECRET KEEPER: Yes, I do. As you stated, this happened before his marriage to his late wife, and your (and his) son should not be regarded as a shameful secret. However, I cannot make this decision FOR Allen, and neither should you. If he isn't strong enough to stand up and stand by his first child, then you should reconsider your relationship with him.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married 50-some years. While we were discussing sex and the pandemic, she revealed that she could imagine having sex with someone while both of them were masked. I said no, the masks would become superfluous and would go just before the clothes. Who is right? – Hypothetically Speaking

DEAR H.S.: Are you serious? Your wife gave you some valuable information that you are ignoring. Where is your sense of humor? Try it. You might like it and discover the masks stay on until, in the heat of passion, they slip off (or not).

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Friends are hurting and he feels useless

Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

DEAR CAROLYN: What do I do when my friends are hurting and I can't do anything to help them?

I don't have a lot of friends, but right now all of them are in various degrees of pain and depression, and I feel useless and helpless and depressed myself over it.

I'm not married and don't have children so I can't even relate to some of their problems or give them any useful perspective. I can listen and be sympathetic, but other than that I've got nothing. – Mr. Useless

DEAR MR. USELESS: You care, you're sympathetic, and you listen. That is everything.

If you have a dinner you can prepare for them and mobility to get out on a socially distanced walk with them and a stupid Zoom-able game to distract them with, then you have everything made tangible.

In other words, please don't conflate an inability to fix their problems with an inability to help. And please don't be so tough on yourself.

And also make sure you have ways to keep yourself afloat when you're not with these friends. Other people's sadness can weigh on you, certainly, but it's important to be able to recognize when you're carrying around other people's problems, which isn't healthy.

Sometimes all it takes to stay upright is to build some restorative things into your schedule – ones you know to be a reliable source of perspective, energy, joy.

You can also say to them out loud, simply: "I can listen and be sympathetic, but other than that I feel like I've got no useful way to help you." That has the potential to open a few doors: for them to recognize how much you care, which has its own power; for them to suggest concrete things you can do to help them; and for them.

DEAR CAROLYN: You so often recommend resources when people are at a loss for next steps. That's me now.

I need to repair a relationship with my father-in-law, who I lost my temper with due to his mean, sarcastic, dismissive approach to me. This was in response to his behavior around my 1-year-old. A week later, I am still angry and uninterested in actually fixing the situation, but I need to for my husband and child.

Do I start with a book? A therapist? Friend therapy? Time? Thank you!! – Still Angry

DEAR STILL ANGRY: You start with your husband. How does he interpret what happened, how does he feel about it, what kind of relationship does he have with his dad, does he see anything wrong with it or him, what would he like you to do, ideally, and how close to that ideal is he pushing for you to get?

You don't even say whether he thinks you or your dad did anything wrong.

The steps are: You and your husband figure out where you both are in this. Then you reconcile any differences into a plan, which makes it sound easy but is everything and can take weeks, months, years. Then you both follow the plan, with flexibility and forgiveness toward each other as you navigate challenging people.

If you're together, then you can manage your father-in-law. If you're not, then fixing that first is where your energy belongs.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

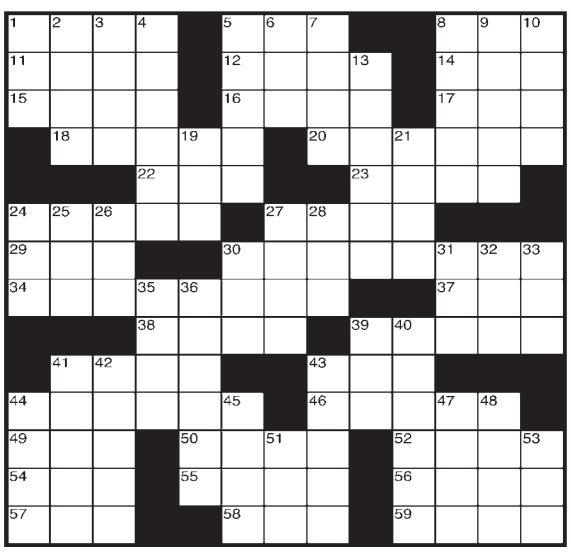
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Klondike —
5 I knew it!
8 Ref's kin
11 Sacred image
12 Retail center
14 Bolger or Conniff
15 Astrologers of yore
16 Saladdressing cheese
17 Plant sticker (var.)
18 Port near Hong Kong
20 Esoteric
22 Hypotheticals
23 Ms. Foch
24 F. — Fitzgerald
27 Hang around
29 Golf term
30 Boat fixer
34 Treedwelling
37 Icky stuff
38 Laser output
39 Milestone
41 Turn
43 Legume
44 Mink or ermine
46 Hindu mystics
49 "— Jude"
50 Cashmere
52 Secondhand
54 Poetic tribute
55 Round building
56 "Blondie" kid
57 Mate's comeback
58 Hibernate
59 Horse's brake

DOWN
1 Delaney of "NYPD Blue"
2 "Waterboy" Sandler
3 Forum attire
4 Draw forth
5 Pulpits
6 Linden or Holbrook
7 Survey finding
8 Municipal
9 — Kea volcano
10 Ceremonial fire
13 Root vegetable
19 Toward the stern
21 Radio — Music Hall
24 Health club
25 Surface transport
26 Moon, in verse
27 Pow!
28 Feel awful
30 Neptune's kingdom
31 Census info
32 Swoboda of baseball
33 Speckle
35 Kimono sashes
36 Freshens
39 Fair-hiring letters
40 Less defined
41 Like fleabag hotels
42 Check endorser
43 Traffic cone
44 Not so fast!
45 Burglar's "key"
47 Speck on a globe
48 18-wheeler
51 "Bravo!"
53 Put on

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	E	A	L	E	R			P	H	O	N	E	S	
M	O	R	A	L	E			R	A	K	I	S	H	
O	S	I	R	I	S			E	L	A	P	S	E	
				D	A	P		F	L	Y				
S	R	A				E	S	A		I	M	P	S	
T	O	P		S	C	A	B			N	E	A	P	
R	O	I		A	T	V		A	G	A	T	E		
E	M	A	I	L		A	F	R		S	T	E		
A	I	R	S			O	G	L	E		L	E	D	
K	E	Y	S			S	E	E			Y	R	S	
			U	P	C			E	D	S				
A	T	T	I	L	A			C	R	A	N	E	S	
L	O	A	N	E	R			E	A	S	I	E	R	
A	M	I	G	A	S			D	W	E	L	L	S	



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JUMBLE

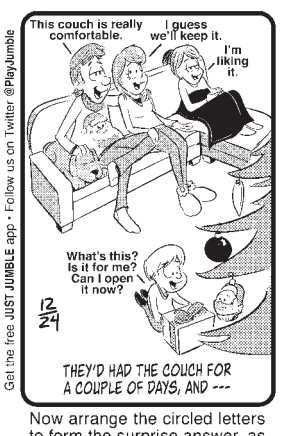
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DOOTU

OOENZ

NDEAAG

SFLISO


This couch is really comfortable.
I guess we'll keep it.
I'm liking it.
What's this? Is it for me? Can I open it now?
12/24
THEY'D HAD THE COUCH FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS, AND ---

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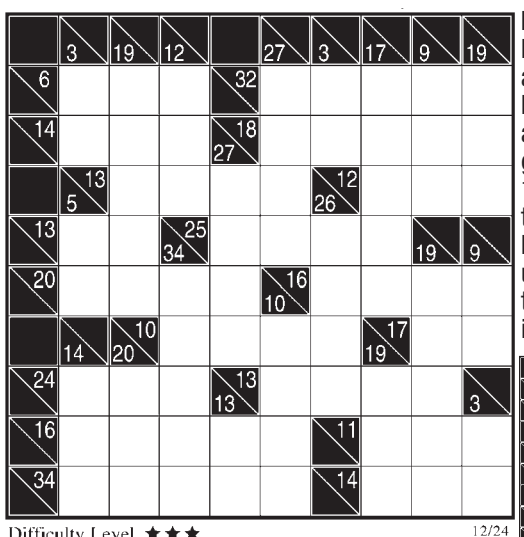
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"_____," _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

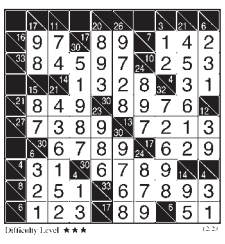
Yesterday's Jumbles: ABIDE HELLO JIGSAW FROZEN
Answer: The chef who specialized in cooking grouper, tuna, cod, etc. was an — "A-FISH-IONADO"

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/24

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

This is another deal from the Chinese Premier League. What happened in four spades doubled after West started with two rounds of hearts?

This auction was unpredictable, but it ended in the normal spot. West's two-diamond response showed a good single heart raise. Three no-trump was ... supply your own adjective!

Every other declarer hoped to find clubs 3-3 and went down one.

At this table, South was Zhu Chenyu, a member of the Chinese under-26 team. He analyzed the auction. East rated not to have a singleton for his three-no-trump rebid. Also, missing so many high-card points, a seven-card heart suit was likely. Zhu felt that East's hand distribution was 2=7=2=2.

After ruffing the second heart, Zhu drew one round of trumps, then ducked a diamond. East returned his second diamond, taken by declarer. Now South cashed his club ace, and East failed to sacrifice his queen. Declarer cashed the spade king and now should have stuck to his guns by leading a low club from his hand, which would have endplayed East. He would have been forced to lead a heart, conceding a ruff-and-sluff, on which declarer would have discarded his club loser. It also would have made life hard for West if he had the club queen-10. He would have had to put up his queen to swallow East's jack, a crocodile coup.

South actually played a trump to dummy, giving East a second chance to disown the club queen. When he threw a heart, South led a club and ducked when East played the queen.

North 12-24-20
♠ J 7 6 3
♥ 9 8
♦ 9 3 2
♣ 8 7 6 2

West
♠ 8
♥ Q J 10
♦ K J 8 7 5
♣ J 10 4 3

East
♠ Q 10
♥ A K 7 6 5 3 2
♦ Q 10
♣ Q 9

South
♠ A K 9 5 4 2
♥ 4
♦ A 6 4
♣ A K 5

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
			1♥
Dbl.	2♦	Pass	3NT!
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♥ Q

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

		7	9			8		4
				1			5	
		9	4	8			7	
	5			3		1		
3				9				6
		4		7			8	
	3			2	6	9		
	9			4				
7		2			9	3		

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	9	5	3	8	1	4	6	7
3	7	6	5	4	9	2	8	1
8	4	1	7	2	6	3	5	9
4	3	2	1	6	7	5	9	8
9	1	8	4	3	5	6	7	2
6	5	7	2	9	8	1	3	4
7	8	3	6	1	4	9	2	5
5	2	4	9	7	3	8	1	6
1	6	9	8	5	2	7	4	3

ALL-STATE

From page B1

Central's Jace Williams and Essexville-Garber's Logan Anthony at wide receiver; Essexville-Garber's Alex VanSumeren and Brayden Swartout, Corunna's Nick Steinacker, Frankenmuth's Kyle Main, Montrose's Levi Harber, Olivet's Mason Shroad and Lansing Catholic's Bo Poljan as linemen; Detroit Edison's Aaron Paulding, Mason County Central's Khole Hofmann, Buchanan's Gavin Fazi and Clinton's Brayden Randolph at linebacker; Ogemaw Heights' Zea Kartes, Detroit Denby's Armon Williams, Muskegon Catholic Central's Tommy Kartes, Boyne City's Bobby Hoth, Lake Odessa Lakewood's Sawyer Stoepker, Grand Rapids Catholic Central's Nolan Ziegler and Grand Rapids West Catholic's Travis Zdanowski at defensive back; Lansing Catholic's Alex Watters at specialist; and Frankenmuth's Ethan Jacobs at punter.

BEARS

From page B1

to beat Jacksonville and Green Bay.

"I think for us, no matter what has happened this season I think in the locker room guys have held their composure, guys have tried to get better, guys have tried to do everything necessary to be able to put ourselves in this position and to continue to win and get better," wide receiver Allen Robinson said.

NOTES: Safety Deon Bush (foot), tight end Demetrius Harris (ankle), cornerback Jaylon Johnson (shoulder), defensive end Akiem Hicks (ankle), running back Cordarrelle Patterson (knee) and defensive back Buster Skrine (concussion) were held out of Wednesday's walk-through practice.

GAME

From page B1

tracing.

The release also said that Harden was unavailable for the game because of a violation of health and safety protocols after video of the disgruntled star surfaced on social media where he was without a mask at a crowded party in a private event space Monday night.

The league later announced the fine for Harden, saying the protocols prohibit attending indoor social gatherings of 15 or more people or entering bars, lounges, clubs or similar establishments.

Already a distraction to the team amid months of rumors that he wants to be traded, Harden's latest move potentially threatened the health and safety of his team and kept the Rockets from beginning their season.

Houston has 16 players on its roster; with seven dealing with tests or quarantine and one hurt. That would have left eight eligible players, which is the league minimum to start a game. Harden's unavailability lowered Houston's total of available players to seven.

Houston's injury report released Wednesday morning that Ben McLemore and rookie KJ Martin were not with the team and were self-isolating and that DeMarcus Cousins was questionable because of a sprained right ankle.

Harden's since-deleted Instagram post explaining why he attended the event in question would certainly suggest that he was in violation of those rules.

In the post he wrote: "One thing after another. I went to show love to my homegirl at her event (not a strip club) because she is becoming a boss and putting her people in a position of success and now it's a problem. Everyday it's something different. No matter how many times people try to drag my name under you can't. The real people always end up on top."

But for now the eight-time All-Star is on the shelf after admitting to breaking the rules set forth in the protocols.

"In light of the serious and highly infectious nature of the coronavirus... individuals must not engage in activities or conduct that a reasonable person would regard as posing unnecessary risk relative to the significance (or lack thereof) of such activity or conduct," the protocols say.

Harden, according to the protocols, may now be ordered into quarantine and could lose about $280,000 for each game missed. Houston's next scheduled game is Saturday at Portland.

Contact tracing takes Lions coaches off field

By LARRY LAGE
Associated Press

The Detroit Lions have resumed practicing without interim coach Darrell Bevell, defensive coordinator Cory Undlin and and some other assistants on the field.

Bevell said Wednesday he has not tested positive for COVID-19, but he is among the several coaches affected by contact tracing. The Lions closed their training facility on Tuesday because one player and one coach tested positive for the coronavirus.

"We have not had any new positive tests, which will enable us to be able to go ahead with practice and have the players here in the building," Bevell said.

Bevell and the other coaches in isolation watched the practice virtually and were part of meetings via Zoom.

Detroit (5-9) is scheduled to host Tampa Bay (5-9) on Saturday, and the reeling and banged-up team might potentially be without its interim coach, defensive coordinator and other assistants. The Buccaneers can clinch a spot in the playoffs with a win at Ford Field.

"By the end of the week, we'll give you all the information that we need to in terms of the contingency plans that we have for guys in specific roles," Bevell said. "Obviously, it's a time where we really do need to adjust."

Bevell said he is "super frustrated," in part because he was quarantined Tuesday on his 28th anniversary.

"I'm stuck in a hotel, can't be with my wife, can't spend time," he said. "So it affects us in a real way."

Bevell said he and the impacted coaches will likely have to remain quarantined at the hotel through Christmas.

"It's kind of hard times, but I don't think it's any different than what anybody in the world is going through right now," Bevell said.

Bevell said he is concerned for the people within the organization that have tested positive for the coronavirus, and for those making bigger sacrifices during the pandemic.

"We've got hospital workers, front-line workers, and we're blessed to still be able to play football," he said. "But it's kind of frustrating."

Goodwin scores 27, Notre Dame beats Bellarmine

SOUTH BEND (AP) — Dane Goodwin scored a season-high 27 points, Prentiss Hubb added 18 and Notre Dame beat Division I newcomer Bellarmine 81-70 on Wednesday.

Notre Dame trailed 33-30 before closing the first half on a 15-3 run – with five points each from Hubb and Nate Laszewski, and four by Goodwin.

Hubb opened and closed a personal 8-0 run with 3-pointers to give Notre Dame a 13-point lead with 13:22 to go and the lead was at least seven the rest of the way.

Goodwin was 8 of 10 from the field, Hubb had four of Notre Dame's eight 3-pointers and Laszewski made all seven of his shots as the Irish shot 60.5 percent from the field.

Goodwin also went 11 for 11 at the line, Notre Dame was 21 of 25 and Bellarmine attempted just six free throws.

Laszewski had 16 points and eight rebounds for Notre Dame (3-4), which is scheduled to play No. 16 Virginia on Dec. 30.

Dylan Penn scored 16 points and CJ Fleming added 15 on five 3-pointers for Bellarmine (1-3), which made its Division I debut on Dec. 4 against then-No. 6 Duke. Fleming, a senior captain, only missed one 3-point attempt in his season debut.

Notre Dame scheduled the game against Bellarmine on Monday after its first ACC road trip of the season, at Syracuse on Dec. 22, was postponed due to contact tracing issues with the Orange. The Knights had four consecutive games canceled prior to playing the Irish.

SCOREBOARD

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Buffalo	11	3	0	.786	407	340
Miami	9	5	0	.643	352	257
New England	6	8	0	.429	289	301
N.Y. Jets	1	13	0	.071	206	413

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	10	4	0	.714	399	320
Tennessee	10	4	0	.714	436	361
Houston	4	10	0	.286	315	386
Jacksonville	1	13	0	.071	275	423

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Pittsburgh	11	3	0	.786	366	264
Cleveland	10	4	0	.714	368	374
Baltimore	9	5	0	.643	403	287
Cincinnati	3	10	1	.250	271	355

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Kansas City	13	1	0	.929	435	310
Las Vegas	7	7	0	.500	377	421
Denver	5	9	0	.357	276	395
L.A. Chargers	5	9	0	.357	327	389

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	6	8	0	.429	302	295
Dallas	5	9	0	.357	339	433
N.Y. Giants	5	9	0	.357	244	311
Philadelphia	4	9	1	.321	303	361

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	397	297
Tampa Bay	9	5	0	.643	401	321
Atlanta	4	10	0	.286	355	353
Carolina	4	10	0	.286	323	356

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Green Bay	11	3	0	.786	434	339
Chicago	7	7	0	.500	315	318
Minnesota	6	8	0	.429	360	388
Detroit	5	9	0	.357	335	435

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Seattle	10	4	0	.714	413	339
L.A. Rams	9	5	0	.643	345	269
Arizona	8	6	0	.571	391	329
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	333	352

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Friday, Dec. 25
Minnesota at New Orleans, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 26
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 4:30 p.m.
Miami at Las Vegas, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 27
Atlanta at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Washington, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Houston, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Seattle, 4:25 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.
Tennessee at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 28
Buffalo at New England, 8:15 p.m.

NBA

Tuesday's Games
Brooklyn 125, Golden State 99
L.A. Clippers 116, L.A. Lakers 109
Wednesday's Games
Cleveland 121, Charlotte 114
Orlando 113, Miami 107
Indiana 121, New York 107
Phila. 113, Washington 107
New Orleans 113, Toronto 99
Boston 122, Milwaukee 121
Atlanta at Chicago
Detroit at Minnesota
Oklahoma City at Houston, ppd
San Antonio at Memphis
Sacramento at Denver
Utah at Portland
Dallas at Phoenix
Thursday's Games
No games scheduled.
Friday's Games
New Orleans at Miami, 12 p.m.
Golden State at Milwaukee, 2:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Boston, 5 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Denver, 10:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Atlanta at Memphis, 5 p.m.
Cleveland at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Washington, 7 p.m.
Phila. at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Toronto at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m.
Houston at Portland, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

2020-21 Bowl Glance
Tuesday, Dec. 22
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Nevada 38, Tulane 27
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
No. 13 BYU 49, UCF 23
Wednesday, Dec. 23
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana Tech vs. Georgia Southern
Montgomery (Ala.) Bowl
Memphis vs. Florida Atlantic
Thursday, Dec. 24
New Mexico Bowl
Frisco, Texas
Hawaii vs. Houston, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Friday, Dec. 25
Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.
Buffalo vs. Marshall, 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Dec. 26
Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
No. 9 Coastal Carolina vs. No. 23 Liberty, 7:30 p.m., (ESPN)
SERVPRO First Responder Bowl
Dallas
No. 16 Louisiana vs. UTSA 3:30 p.m. (ABC)
Lendingtree Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
W. Kentucky vs. Georgia St., 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Tuesday, Dec. 29
Cheez-It Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
No. 18 Miami vs. Oklahoma St., 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
No. 20 Texas vs. Colorado, 9 p.m. (ESPN)
Wednesday, Dec. 30
Duke's Mayo Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
Wisconsin vs. Wake Forest, Noon (ESPN)
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
No. 12 Iowa St. vs. Missouri, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Cotton Bowl Classic
Arlington, Texas
No. 8 Oklahoma vs. No. 10 Florida, 7:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Thursday, Dec. 31
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth, Texas
No. 22 Tulsa vs. Mississippi St., Noon (ESPN)
Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.
No. 19 San Jose St. vs. Ball State., 2 p.m. (CBSSN)
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
West Virginia vs. Army, 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Texas Bowl
Houston
TCU vs. Arkansas, 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Friday, Jan. 1
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
No. 6 Cincinnati vs. No. 11 Georgia, Noon (ESPN)
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
No. 15 Northwestern vs. Auburn, 1 p.m. (ABC)
College Football Playoff Semifinal
Arlington, Texas
No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 4 Notre Dame, 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Sugar Bowl
New Orleans
No. 2 Clemson vs. No. 3 Ohio St., 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Jan 2
Gator Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
No. 24 NC State vs. Kentucky, Noon (ESPN)
Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
No. 7 Indiana vs. Mississippi, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
No. 12 Iowa State vs. No. 25 Oregon, 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.
No. 5 Texas A&M vs. No. 14 North Carolina, 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Jan. 11
College Football Championship
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Semifinal Game 1 winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

TRANSACTIONS

FOOTBALL
National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS — Waived CB Jordan Miller from injured reserve.
CHICAGO BEARS — Signed RB Spencer Ware to the practice squad. Activated WR Thomas Ives to practice squad from the practice squad/COVID-19 list. Activated WR DeAndre Carter to the active roster from the reserve/COVID-19 list.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Placed OL Chris Hubbard on injured reserve. Placed S Elijah Benton on the practice squad/COVID-19 list.
LOS ANGELES RAMS — Activated DB Nick Scott from injured reserve. Placed DB Juju Hughes on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Signed CB Dee Virgin to the practice squad. Placed DT Marquise Copeland and LB Derrick Moncrief on the practice squad/COVID-19 list.

FRIDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Say in fun
5 Extreme degree
8 Hat attachment
12 Bad day for Caesar
13 Future fish
14 Cato's bear
15 Hits
16 Forefront
17 Put down
18 Gaucho's rope
20 Pipes
22 Shaggy-haired ox
23 Brother's title
24 Leipzig link
27 Tornado shape
30 "Foucault's Pendulum" author
31 Capp and Jolson
32 Kernel holder
34 Eatery order
35 Ex-soldier
37 Mr. Orbison
38 Quaking trees
40 — cuisine
42 Meadow
43 Sunflower yield
44 Cramp
46 Famous racetrack
49 Earthquake
50 Moose kin
52 Forthright
54 Lotion additive
55 Kung fu expert Bruce —
56 Place for posies
57 Futons and pallets
58 Harry, to Charles
59 "Who — was there?"

DOWN
1 Crane arm
2 Smell
3 French Legion headgear
4 Makes a try
5 Kim of "Vertigo"
6 Water-power org.
7 A few
8 Spock or Sarek
9 Latin 101 word
10 Wife of Osiris
11 Schoolboy
19 Make doilies
21 Coffee makers
24 Spider trap
25 West Coast campus
26 Crumbles
27 Soap ingredients
28 Beige hue
29 Raid
33 So long!
35 Notch shapes
36 Nail polishes
39 Dinnerware items
40 Towel word
41 Recess
43 Like some chests
44 Foot part
45 Tramp along
47 Gem
48 Miss Trueheart of the comics
49 Elbow
51 Durocher or Tolstoy
53 Born as

Answer to Previous Puzzle

K	A	T	E		A	H	A			U	M	P
I	D	O	L		M	A	R	T		R	A	Y
M	A	G	I		B	L	E	U		B	U	R
	M	A	C	A	O		A	R	C	A	N	E
			I	F	S			N	I	N	A	
S	C	O	T	T		W	A	I	T			
P	A	R			S	H	I	P	Y	A	R	D
A	R	B	O	R	E	A	L			G	O	O
			B	E	A	M		E	V	E	N	T
	S	P	I	N			P	E	A			
W	E	A	S	E	L		Y	O	G	I	S	
H	E	Y		W	O	O	L		U	S	E	D
O	D	E		S	I	L	O		E	L	M	O
A	Y	E			D	E	N		R	E	I	N

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FRIDAY JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MATUG

GREME

THEEIR

TNOKYT

Ho, ho, ho! Here we go!
I've got more icing.
Do we have more dough?
Yay! More cookies!
These are yummy!
THEY LOVED BAKING CHRISTMAS COOKIES TOGETHER AND WERE ENJOYING ALL THE ---

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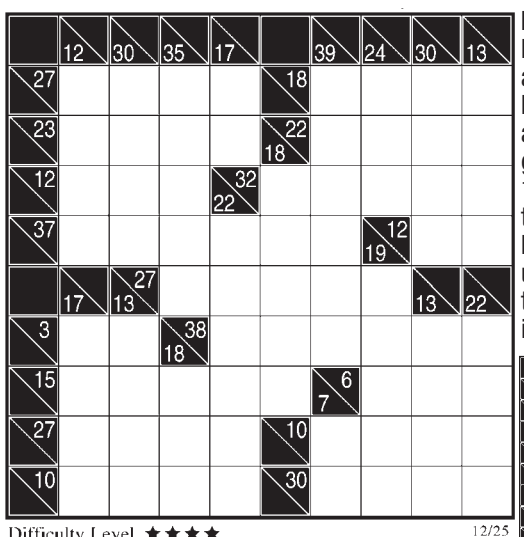
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

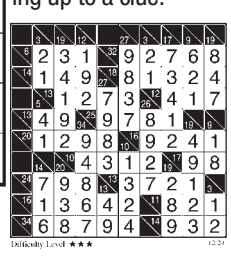
Yesterday's Jumbles: OUTDO OZONE AGENDA FOSSIL
Answer: They'd had the couch for a couple of days, and — "SOFA," SO GOOD

FRIDAY KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 12/25

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



FRIDAY BRIDGE

I hope all of my readers have a really fun time over the holidays despite the pandemic. Now for the regular annual competition plus a ghost of Christmas Past, 20 years ago.

1. How should South play in four spades after West leads a trump, and East follows suit? Do not be influenced by the given East-West hands. They will change when I give the answer on Friday, Jan. 29. The other answers will be on Jan. 30.

2. Propose an auction for this deal, West being the dealer.

3. Look only at the East hand. North opens one spade. What should East do?

4. Look only at the South hand. North opens one diamond, and East passes. What should South respond?

5. Look only at the West hand. East opens one spade, and South doubles. What should West do?

6. Look only at the North hand. West opens seven spades, all pass. What should North lead?

Two of Japan's poetic forms are haiku and senryu. Each contains three lines, no two of which rhyme, the first containing five syllables; the second, seven; and the last, five. Haiku is usually about nature. Senryu is the same, except not about nature. So, please compose one or more senryu with a bridge theme.

Here is a possibility to give you the idea: "If you wish to ask / For the aces partner holds / Trot out the old Black." But I'm sure that you can think of something much more imaginative.

Mail your entry to Phillip Alder, c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut Street, Kansas City, MO 64106 to arrive by Jan. 23, 2021. Or email it to phillip@bridgeforeveryone.com.

North 12-25-20
♠ 6 3 2
♥ 8 4
♦ A K J 5 3
♣ K 7 4

West
♠ 5
♥ K Q 6 3 2
♦ Q 10 9 8
♣ A 9 8

East
♠ 7 4
♥ A J 10 9 5
♦ 7
♣ Q 10 6 3 2

South
♠ A K Q J 10 9 8
♥ 7
♦ 6 4 2
♣ J 5

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 5

FRIDAY SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

				6	3			
			5					2
	3	7		2		1	5	
		1		5				7
	6	2		1		5	8	
9				7		2		
	5	4		8		9	2	
8					5			
			4	9				

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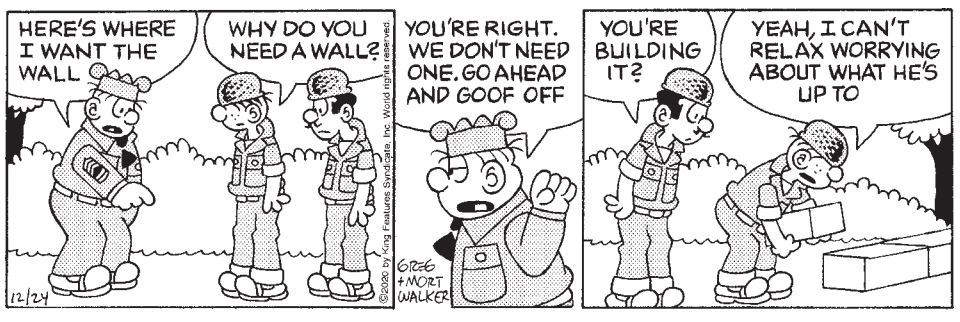
How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

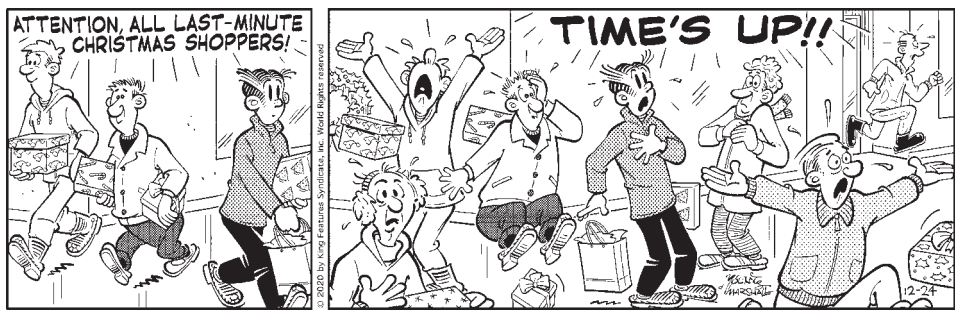
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

1	2	7	9	6	5	8	3	4
4	8	3	2	1	7	6	5	9
5	6	9	4	8	3	2	7	1
2	5	6	8	3	4	1	9	7
3	7	8	5	9	1	4	2	6
9	1	4	6	7	2	5	8	3
8	3	1	7	2	6	9	4	5
6	9	5	3	4	8	7	1	2
7	4	2	1	5	9	3	6	8

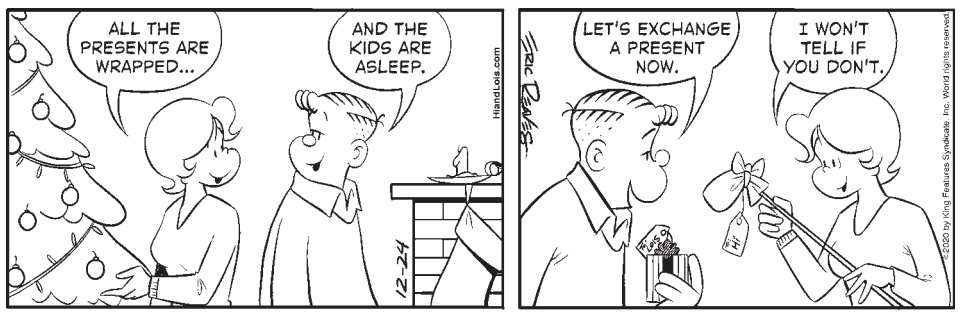
BEETLE BAILEY


HERE'S WHERE I WANT THE WALL
WHY DO YOU NEED A WALL?
YOU'RE RIGHT. WE DON'T NEED ONE. GO AHEAD AND GOOF OFF
YOU'RE BUILDING IT?
YEAH, I CAN'T RELAX WORRYING ABOUT WHAT HE'S UP TO
12/24
GREG + MORT WALKER

BLONDIE

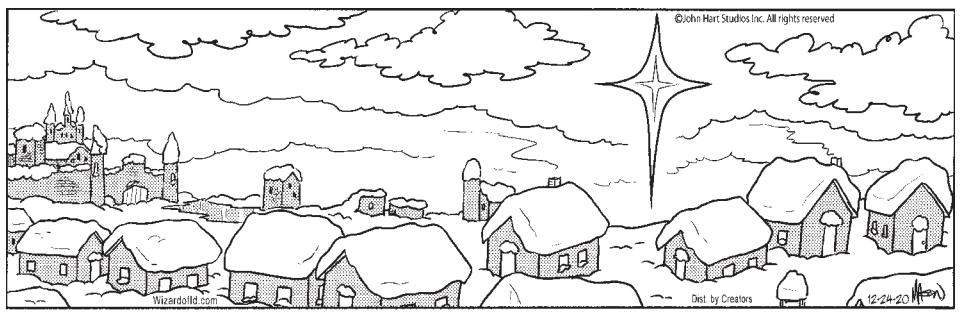


HI & LOIS

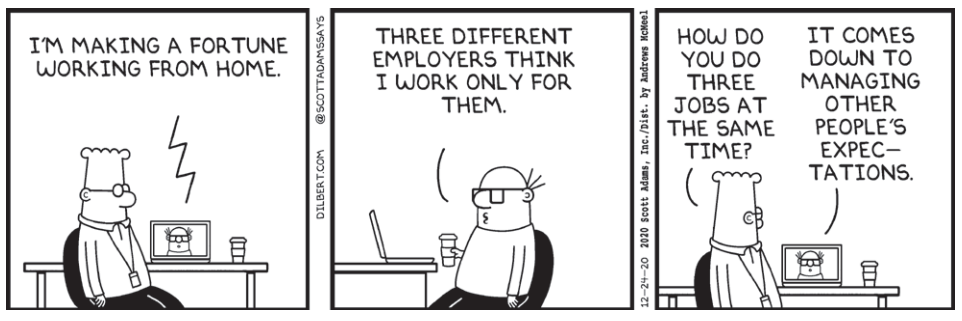


BC

WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT


I'M MAKING A FORTUNE WORKING FROM HOME.
THREE DIFFERENT EMPLOYERS THINK I WORK ONLY FOR THEM.
HOW DO YOU DO THREE JOBS AT THE SAME TIME?
IT COMES DOWN TO MANAGING OTHER PEOPLE'S EXPEC-TATIONS.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
12-24-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

STAYING UP TO SEE SANTA?
THIS YEAR I'M GOING TO CATCH HIM IN THE ACT!
THEY SAY HE'S A MASTER OF DISGUISE
HE WON'T FOOL ME!
HO! HO! HO!
JIM DAVIS 12-24
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Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

FORT KNOX

I NEED YOUR HELP KEEPING THIS AWAY FROM DONALD.
WHAT IS IT?
WASH. POST
AN "AUTO-SANTA"... JUST TELL IT WHAT YOU WANT AND IT CREATES IT FOR YOU.
THAT'S AMAZING.
STUFF ME
IT IS... SO WHAT DO YOU SAY?
Dirty SANTA
BEER!! BEER!! BEER!!
BEER ME
12/24
© 2020 Paul Jon. Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group

PICKLES

GRAMPA, IS IT TRUE THAT SANTA CLAUS IS WATCHING US ALL THE TIME?
AND HE KNOWS IF WE'VE BEEN BAD OR GOOD?
NO. DON'T WORRY ABOUT SANTA CLAUS. IT'S GRAMMA YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT.
12/24
I HEARD THAT!!
© 2020 Brian Crane, dist. by Washington Post Writers Group

FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

BABY BLUES

DAD, CAN I USE YOUR PHONE TO TEXT SANTA?
UM... SURE.
SUGGESTION: LESS PACKING EQUALS MORE ROOM FOR GIFTS!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT
GREEDY, YET GREEN.
IT'S A WIN-WIN, DAD.
babyblues.com

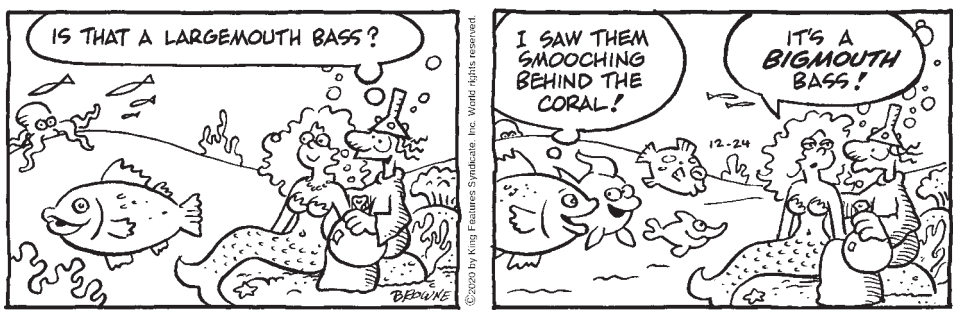
CURTIS

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE SANTA TO BRING YOU?
A SLIM WAIST, A HIGH-PAYING JOB AND MY OLD HAIRLINE!
BUT MOST OF ALL, MORE QUALITY TIME WITH MY TWO SONS!
WOULD IT SPOIL THE SURPRISE IF I TOLD YOU SANTA COULD ONLY AFFORD A SHAVING KIT?
12/24

ZITS

HI, JEREMY. WHAT'S NEW?
NOT MUCH.
I GREW THESE THREE EXTRA HANDS TODAY, BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT.
OUR NEW YEAR'S EVE HUG SHOULD BE INTERESTING.
YOU ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.
12-24
SCOTT & JIM BERGMAN
zitscomics.com

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



GARFIELD

STAYING UP TO SEE SANTA?
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THEY SAY HE'S A MASTER OF DISGUISE
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HO! HO! HO!
JIM DAVIS 12-24
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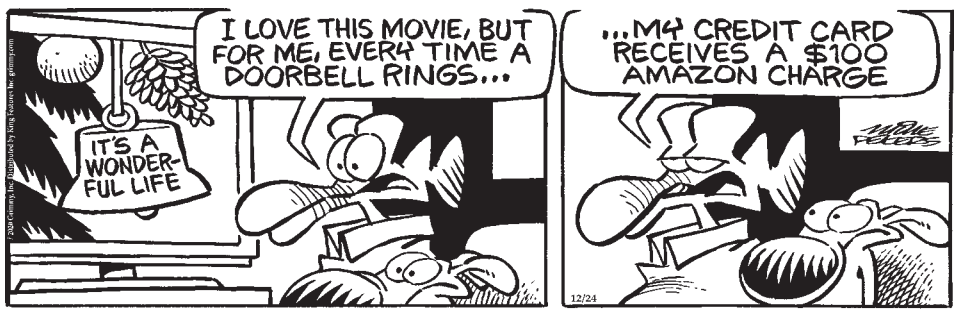
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM


I LOVE THIS MOVIE, BUT FOR ME, EVERY TIME A DOORBELL RINGS...
IT'S A WONDER-FUL LIFE
...MY CREDIT CARD RECEIVES A $100 AMAZON CHARGE
12/24
grimmy.com

FORT KNOX

I NEED YOUR HELP KEEPING THIS AWAY FROM DONALD.
WHAT IS IT?
WASH. POST
AN "AUTO-SANTA"... JUST TELL IT WHAT YOU WANT AND IT CREATES IT FOR YOU.
THAT'S AMAZING.
STUFF ME
IT IS... SO WHAT DO YOU SAY?
Dirty SANTA
BEER!! BEER!! BEER!!
BEER ME
12/24
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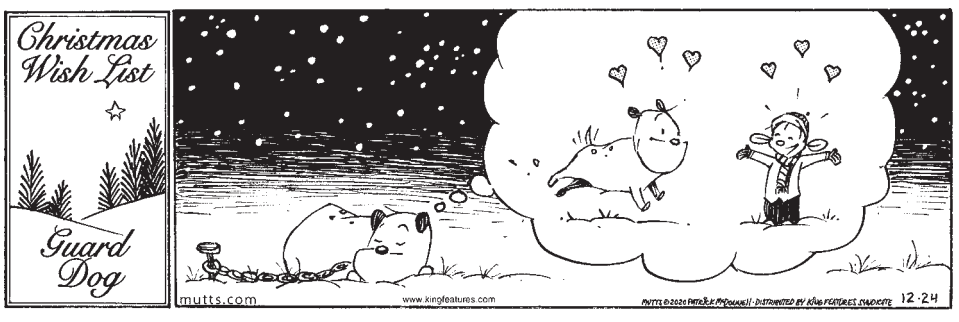
MUTTS



PICKLES

GRAMPA, IS IT TRUE THAT SANTA CLAUS IS WATCHING US ALL THE TIME?
AND HE KNOWS IF WE'VE BEEN BAD OR GOOD?
NO. DON'T WORRY ABOUT SANTA CLAUS. IT'S GRAMMA YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT.
12/24
I HEARD THAT!!
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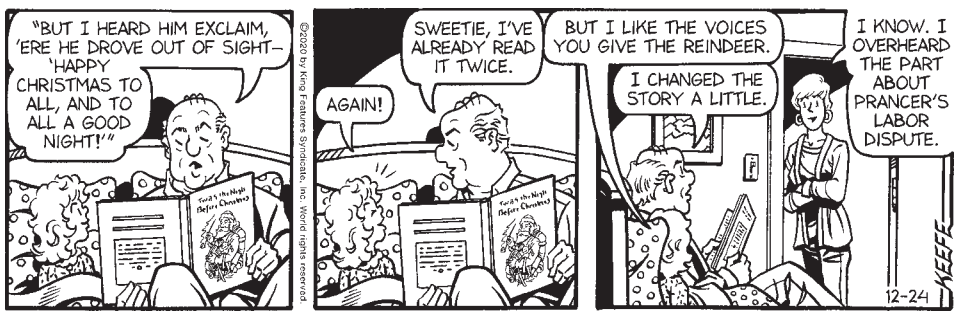
SALLY FORTH


"BUT I HEARD HIM EXCLAIM, 'ERE HE DROVE OUT OF SIGHT— 'HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!'"
AGAIN!
SWEETIE, I'VE ALREADY READ IT TWICE.
BUT I LIKE THE VOICES YOU GIVE THE REINDEER.
I CHANGED THE STORY A LITTLE.
I KNOW. I OVERHEARD THE PART ABOUT PRANCER'S LABOR DISPUTE.
12-24
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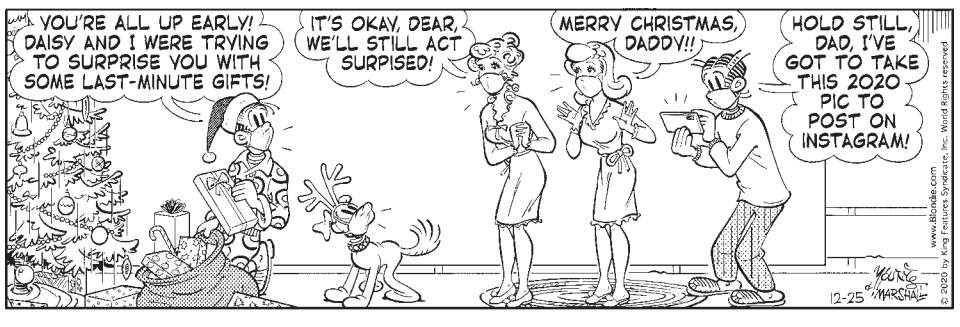
Get outdoors!
Fishing • Hunting
Wildlife sightings
Upcoming events
Saturdays in
The Herald-Palladium

BEETLE BAILEY

ALL OF US GOT TOGETHER TO GIVE YOU A "CARE PACKAGE" FOR CHRISTMAS
ME ?
GREG + MORT WALKER
12/25
WE FIGURED YOU NEED A LOT MORE CARE THAN MOST
SARGE
©2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
Merry Christmas!

BLONDIE


YOU'RE ALL UP EARLY! DAISY AND I WERE TRYING TO SURPRISE YOU WITH SOME LAST-MINUTE GIFTS!
IT'S OKAY, DEAR, WE'LL STILL ACT SURPISED!
MERRY CHRISTMAS, DADDY!!
HOLD STILL, DAD, I'VE GOT TO TAKE THIS 2020 PIC TO POST ON INSTAGRAM!
12-25
YOUNG & MARSHALL
www.BlondieBlog.com
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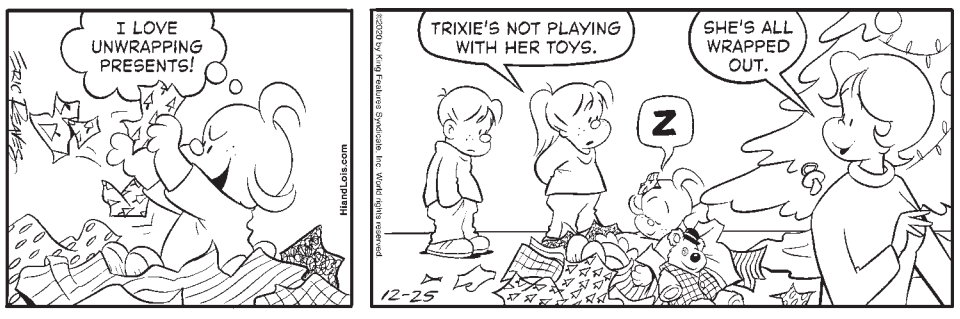
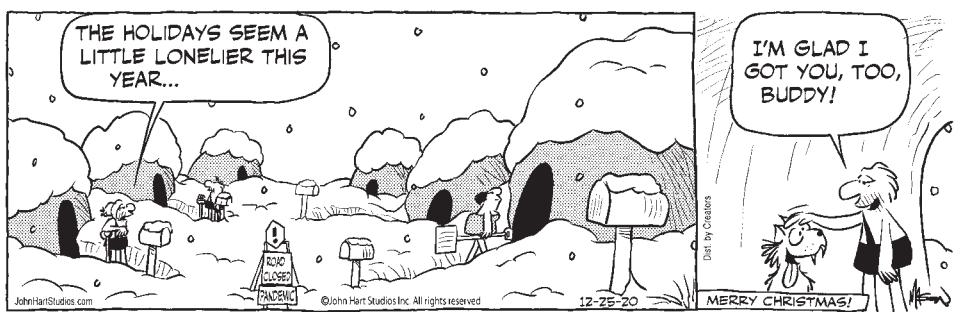
HI & LOIS



BC


THE HOLIDAYS SEEM A LITTLE LONELIER THIS YEAR...
ROAD CLOSED PANDEMIC
JohnHartStudios.com
©John Hart Studios Inc. All rights reserved
12-25-20
I'M GLAD I GOT YOU, TOO, BUDDY!
Dist. by Creators
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

EXCUSE ME, I HAVE TO TAKE A CALL FROM ONE OF THE OTHER EMPLOYERS WHO ALSO BELIEVES I WORK FOR THEM FULL TIME FROM HOME.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
I CAN'T TELL WHEN HE'S JOKING.
THAT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST.
12-25-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

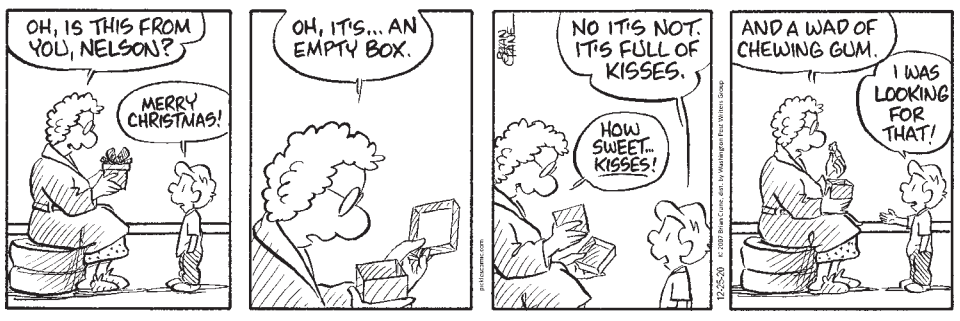
GARFIELD

MERRY CHRISTMAS, DONKEY FACE!
MERRY CHRISTMAS, IGUANA LIPS!
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR, GORILLA GUT!
SAME TO YOU, BUFFALO BREATH!
© 2020 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
HAVE YOU CALLED YOUR BROTHER LATELY?
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 12-25

FORT KNOX

MERRY CHRISTMAS, MOM!! DAD USED THE "AUTO-SANTA" TO GET YOU A SPECIAL GIFT.
WOW! AND HE COULD GET ME ANY-THING?
© 2020 Paul Jon. Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group
YEAH.
SO I GOT YOU POTS AND PANS!
SAN
PAN MAN
12/25
IT'S YOUR TURN... WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET HIM?
SANTA
GIFT ME
A DIVORCE.
FANTA
GOT COAL?

PICKLES


OH, IS THIS FROM YOU, NELSON?
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
OH, IT'S... AN EMPTY BOX.
NO IT'S NOT. IT'S FULL OF KISSES.
HOW SWEET... KISSES!
AND A WAD OF CHEWING GUM.
I WAS LOOKING FOR THAT!
12-25-20 ©2020 Brian Crane distributed by Washington Post Writers Group

FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

BABY BLUES

AND THE LAST PRESENT GOES TO DADDY!
IS THIS WHAT I THINK IT IS?
YES! THE GIFT EVERY DAD NEEDS!
A SUPER-JUMBO PACK OF AA BATTERIES.
YAY!
babyblues.com

CURTIS

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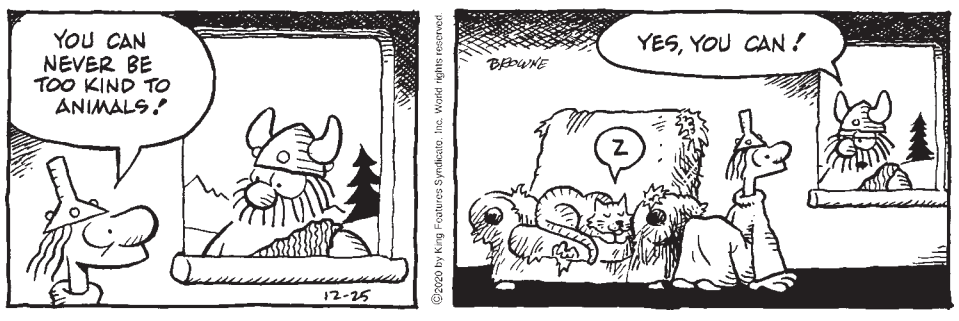
BILLINGSLEY
12-25
MAY THIS DAY BE A BLESSED DAY OF PEACE
DAD
WITH PEACE OF MIND.

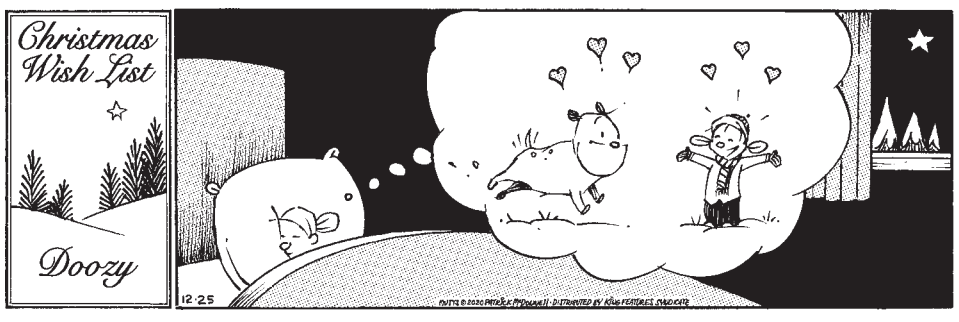
ZITS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

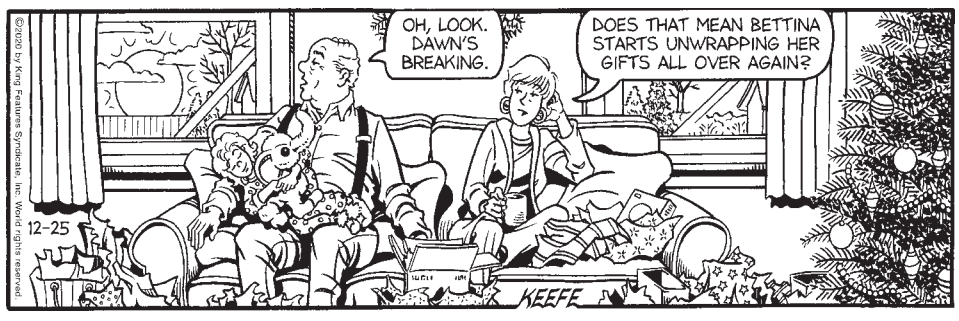


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MUTTS



SALLY FORTH


©2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
OH, LOOK. DAWN'S BREAKING.
DOES THAT MEAN BETTINA STARTS UNWRAPPING HER GIFTS ALL OVER AGAIN?
12-25
KEEFE

Be a history explorer

The entire archive of The Herald-Palladium and its forerunner newspapers, dating back more than 150 years, is now available online in a text-searchable format

Use the archive to do serious genealogical research or simply to have fun reading about your ancestors.
Find old clippings about your birth or high school graduation.
Learn what happened in the world on the day you were born.

The Herald-Palladium

Newspapers.com by ancestry

Only $4.95 for 1 month's access or $19.95 for 6 months' access.

It's easy to get started:

- Go to www.TheHP.com
- Click on the "Archives" tab in the top menu, and choose "Search Newspapers.com"
- Click on the "Get Archive Access" link to sign up

Look for handy tutorials to help you learn how to use the site effectively

The Herald-Palladium CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Desk: 1-855-317-4292
Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm EST
Saturday & Sunday 8am-11am EST

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Procrastination will not help you get where you want to go. Let your heart lead the way, and make the moves that feel right for you. Push forward with confidence, and live the life you want to live. Leave the past behind you, and look forward with optimism.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Let others know what you are thinking and what you want. Believe in your ability and push forward until you reach your goal. Reach out to your loved ones and celebrate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) When unsure, stop and rethink your strategy. Be careful how you deal with friends and relatives. Be mindful of the difficulties that others are experiencing. Strive to take better care of your health.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Talk of change will lift your spirits. Share plans with people you haven't seen in some time. Consider innovative ways to use your skills in the new year. Alleviate uncertainty.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Put your energy into something meaningful. Enjoy the festivities without overspending. Make arrangements with someone close to you. Romance is in the stars, and new adventures await.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Preparation, intelligence and putting your energy where it counts will help you reach your goal. Emotions will be difficult to control. Don't let insecurity set in because of what someone says or does.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't go overboard trying to please others with lavish gifts or be disappointed if someone doesn't reciprocate. Last-minute shopping will lead to overspending. Buy fewer things. Offer your love and thoughtfulness.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) An intelligent move on your part will give you the edge. What you have to offer will lead to unexpected rewards. A partnership looks promising. Listen to the concerns of others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Go over the pros and cons of a situation before you decide to get involved. You can minimize emotional turmoil. Distance yourself from negativity, and concentrate on being and doing your best.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Open up to close friends and relatives. You will receive information that will help you make decisions that will improve your life. An unexpected opportunity will arise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't get involved in other people's problems. If someone makes demands, offer suggestions, not your time or money. Look for a way to express your feelings to a loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A new beginning is heading your way. Don't take someone's word as truth. Verify facts, and leave no room for error when making plans. Procrastination will not help you reach your goal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Look at the big picture. Reach out to someone who shares your dream. Make plans to boost your morale. A personal change will lead to romance. Find something exciting to talk about with loved ones.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

MICHIGAN CITY

3 Bedroom Lower,

Includes air conditioning.

1/2 basement with washer and dryer

No pets!

$800 per month

219-872-4731

Michigan City, IN

1 bedroom upper PLUS loft

Includes Washer & Dryer

No pets

$600 per month plus utilities

Call 219-872-4731

Trail Creek, IN
2 Bedroom apartment, very nice & clean, central air, with nice yard, very quiet neighborhood, $600 a month plus deposit, water and sewer included, renters responsible for Nipsco, No Pets first month plus deposit due at signing.
(219) 879-3700

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LEGALS

LEGALS

Notice of Public Comment Period: Pokagon Band TAS for CWA 319

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi (Pokagon Band) is opening a 30-day public comment period for its application to the Environmental Protection Agency for treatment in a similar manner as a state (TAS) for Clean Water Act (CWA) 319. Receiving TAS for CWA 319 will allow Pokagon Band to expand its non-point source (NPS) pollution program. The Pokagon Band will manage known NPS pollution locations on tribal trust lands and expand partnerships with local and state agencies with the NPS program.
The public comment period will begin on December 28th, 2020 and end on January 28th, 2021. Documents are available for review on the Pokagon Band's website (http://www.pokagon-band-nsn.gov/cwa-319-application-open-comment-period-dnr), and hardcopies are available upon request or via appointment at the Pokagon Band's Department of Natural Resources office. Comments can be submitted through the Pokagon Band's website or emailed to Grants@Pokagon Band-nsn.gov

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

People Do Read Small Ads. You Did!

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

WANTED
Electrician - part-time
Call 269-252-6352

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

School Guidance Counselor

River Valley School District
Employment info at: www.rivervalley schools.org
Deadline: Until Filled

Special Education Paraprofessional

River Valley School District
Employment info at: www.river valleyschools.org
Deadline: Until filled

GENERAL HELP

Food Service Delivery Driver
Join our crew! The area's leading fresh produce food service distributor has both CDL and non-CDL positions available. Deliver to local restaurants and institutions. Must have a good driving record, and be able to lift product.
Home every night.
Good benefits.
Apply at Shelton's Farm Market, 1832 S 11th Street, Niles MI.

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

MERCHANDISE

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

BUYING JUNK
CARS & TRUCKS
Small Cars $200
Medium Cars $300
Large Vehicles $350
Call Larry at (269)326-0510
Or Scott at (269)208-9208

PETS

FARM

TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE HUNTING?
Watch For Our Open House Ads In The Classifieds!

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mccoy Brother's Jewelers will resume business when the vaccine arrives and is administered to the public at large.
Hang in there, folks.
Mccoy Brother's will reopen at that time, for the final run, of about one year.

The Herald-Palladium

The Herald Palladium is looking for a reliable person to drive a company owned, 16 foot truck, to deliver newspapers from our local print site to The Grand Haven Tribune in Grand Haven, MI. The position is not responsible for the delivery of individual newspapers to subscribers. Drops are made at two post office locations, as well as, the local newspaper office. Experience operating an electric lift is desired.

This is a third shift position, approximately 3-7am, Tuesday-Saturday. Must have valid driver's license and have a clean MVR.

Job Type: Part-time

To Apply: Contact Bruce
btheisen@heraldpalladium.com
269-429-2400 ext. 553

Responding to employment ads that contain a Herald-Palladium box #

No telephone calls please! We will not reveal the name of the box holder.
(A) Reply with your sealed letter Addressed as follows:

Box (# that appears in ad)
c/o the Herald-Palladium
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then: B) attach a note listing which firms are NOT to receive your letter; and (C) send every thing in ANOTHER ENVELOPE addressed as follows:

The Herald-Palladium
Classified Department
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

E-Mail Responses
You may also reply to ads with Herald-Palladium box numbers by e-mail. Do not attach your resume rather type it or copy & paste it directly into your e-mail program. Send your e-mail to: jobs@heraldpalladium.com

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then begin your e-mail with any company(s) where you do not wish to apply. Then include the Herald-Palladium box address as shown above.

Employment Advertisers Who Wish to Remain Anonymous

To protect our readers, Herald-Palladium policy requires that all companies list their names when placing ads in our publication. Employment advertisers who wish to remain anonymous must rent Herald-Palladium boxes so that we can insure our readers that they are not responding to their current employers or any other company to which they do not wish to apply.

Box Charges

Boxes are reserved for 30 days after last day of ad publication. The charge is:
$10. per box- you pick-up responses.
$15. per box - We fax all responses to you on a daily basis.
$25. per box- We mail responses to you once per week.
When readers respond to your ad via e-mail, we will forward them to you immediately if you provide us with an e-mail address or we will print and handle them in the manner that you request.

The Herald-Palladium

BUSINESS & SERVICE GUIDE

Grow your business!
Call Angelique at 855-317-4292 Ex. 701, to find out how

Complete Tree Service
- Senior & Veteran Discounts -

Willie Nearn Jr.
and Associates
269-532-8156
Making things happen by getting things done
FREE QUOTES & TREE INSPECTIONS

CARPENTRY
Richter's Carpentry
Specializing in basement remodeling, drywall, drop ceilings, doors & trim.
No job too small.
20+ years in Business.
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Demler Roofing
Over 40 Years Experience
Baroda, MI
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Licensed & Insured
Shingles are our Specialty

HOME IMPROVEMENT & REPAIR
Larry Morrow SR
Residential Builder
- Painting
- Kitchens
- Baths
- Drywall
- Roofing
- Decks
- Windows
- Doors
- Fences
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Flooring
- Siding
- Basements
- Tub Refinishing

269-325-2242
Licensed & Insured

MASONRY
Michigan Concrete Masonry
Driveways, all concrete, brick, block, stone & chimneys.
All repairs, big or small
(We repair all leaky basements)
(269)993-8645

Happy Holidays

In order to allow our employees time with their families for the Christmas holiday, our call center will be closing at 12:00pm (Noon) on Christmas Eve, December 24th. We will be closed on Christmas Day. We will reopen at 9:00am on Monday, December 28th, 2020.

The following deadlines for placing a Classified Liner is as follows:
To publish on Saturday, December 26th, 2020 the deadline is 11:00am on Thursday, December 24th, 2020.

Buy It. Sell It. Find It. CLASSIFIED.

Extra Business is as easy as asking for it!

DO IT HERE, DO IT NOW!